

# 'BAMA

INSIDE THE CRIMSON TIDE

MARCH, 1996

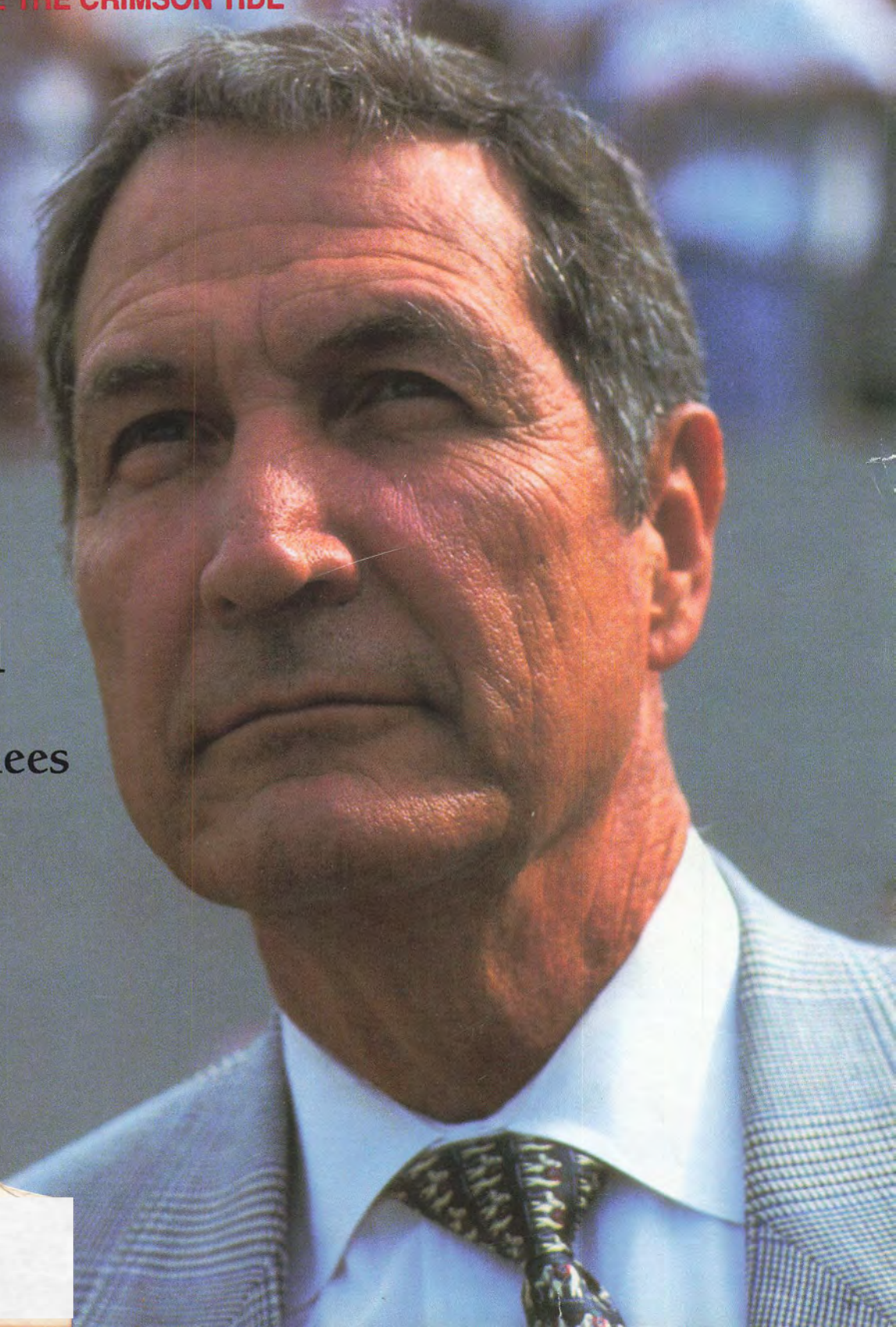
VOLUME 18, NUMBER 3

Inside:

- Spring Football

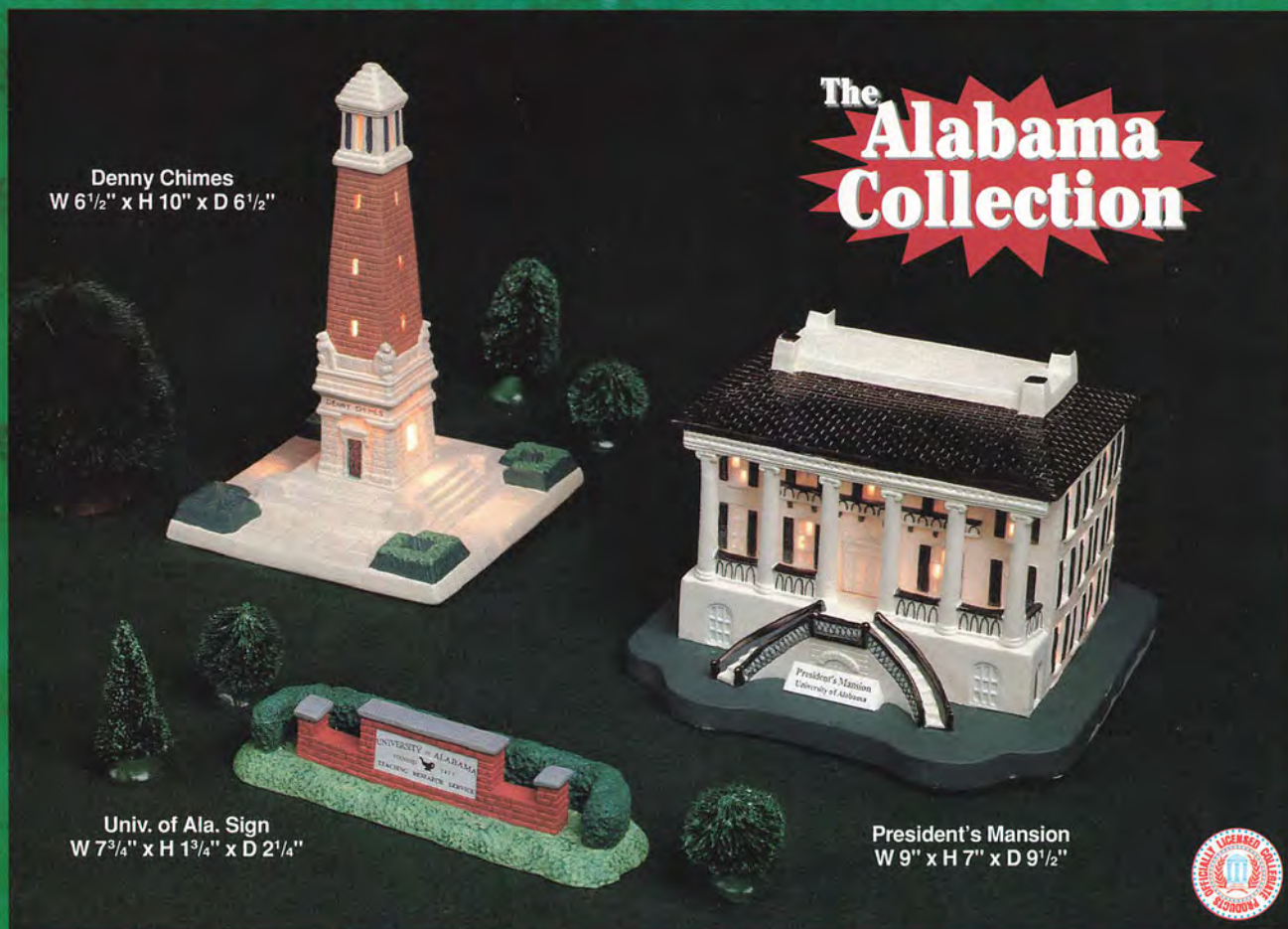
Also

- Football Signees
- And More





# COLLEGIATE COLLECTABLES PRESENTS...



Denny Chimes  
W 6 1/2" x H 10" x D 6 1/2"

Univ. of Ala. Sign  
W 7 3/4" x H 1 3/4" x D 2 1/4"

President's Mansion  
W 9" x H 7" x D 9 1/2"



**T**HE COLLEGIATE EXPERIENCE embodies much more than just a college education. It produces a personal relationship with and love for an institution that forever becomes a part of one's life.

Each Collegiate Collectable is meticulously designed and crafted with that lifetime collegiate pride in mind. Extreme care is given to insure high quality standards are met and to protect the value and collectability of each piece.

Each handpainted Collegiate Collectable, strictly limited in issue size, is individually numbered and hand-inspected for quality, workmanship and verification of production number assignment. Individual pieces are produced only during the year of issuance after which production is halted and the molds destroyed.

In addition, each Collegiate Collectable is officially licensed and authorized by the University of Alabama. Revenues generated by licensed products assist the university in carrying out its education mission through scholarships and academic programs.

©1995 Collegiate Collectables  
P.O. Drawer 360207 Birmingham, AL 35236

## 1995 Alabama Collection Release



The President's Mansion is Collegiate Collectable's 1995 release for the Alabama Collection. This building, built in 1841, was one of only four campus buildings to survive when Union troops raided the University in April 1865 and stands today as a symbol of the University's heritage. This piece is a perfect complement to Collegiate Collectable's 1994 initial Alabama Collection release, Denny Chimes. The issue size of the President's Mansion is strictly limited to 5000 pieces.

## Alabama Collection Accessory



University of Alabama Sign

## THE ALABAMA COLLECTION

### 1995 Release

The President's Mansion  
Issue Size: 5000 **\$69.95**

### 1994 Release

Denny Chimes  
Issue Size: 3000 **\$69.95**  
(limited number available)

### Alabama Collection Accessory

University of Alabama Sign **\$24.95**

To Order:  
**1-800-750-4567**  
Monday - Friday 8a.m.-5p.m. CT



Also available at selected retail outlets.



# Order Collegiate Publication Subscriptions for Friends or Relatives!

You enjoy following your favorite college program no matter where you live and now you can provide the same enjoyment for a friend or relative. From football to basketball to baseball, each of these magazines provides the coverage you've come to know and trust. Collegiate publications make a great gift and last the whole year.

## CALL NOW 1-800-276-8401

Lines open 24 hours a day

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <p><b>1 ALABAMA - 'Bama, Inside the Crimson Tide</b><br/><i>Roll Tide! 10 magazines, 14 newsletters, \$35 (AL res. add \$2 tax)</i></p> <p><b>2 ARIZONA - Cat Tracks</b><br/><i>The latest on Wildcat athletics. 33 issues, \$49</i></p> <p><b>3 AUBURN - Inside the Auburn Tigers</b><br/><i>Go Tigers! 10 magazines, 11 newsletters, \$30 (AL res. add \$1.80 tax)</i></p> <p><b>4 BOSTON COLLEGE - Eagle Action</b><br/><i>The news magazine covering BC sports. 9 issues, \$29.95</i></p> <p><b>5 BRIGHAM YOUNG - Cougar Sports Magazine</b><br/><i>Complete Cougar sports coverage. 10 issues, \$29.95</i></p> <p><b>6 CINCINNATI - Bearcat Sports Digest</b><br/><i>Unbeatable Bearcat sports information. 20 issues, \$32.95</i></p> <p><b>7 COLORADO - The Buffalo Sports News</b><br/><i>The ultimate source for Buffalo fans. 20 issues, \$35.95</i></p> <p><b>8 CONNECTICUT - Husky Blue &amp; White</b><br/><i>A must for all Husky sports enthusiasts. 14 issues, \$32.50</i></p> <p><b>9 DUKE - Blue Devil Weekly</b><br/><i>The inside source for all Duke sports. 25 issues, \$31.95</i></p> <p><b>10 EAST CAROLINA - Pirate's Chest</b><br/><i>Coverage of all East Carolina sports. 20 issues, \$25</i></p> <p><b>11 FLORIDA - Gator Bait</b><br/><i>Detailed Gator news. 32 issues, 2 previews, \$47 (FL res. add \$2.82 tax)</i></p> <p><b>12 FLORIDA STATE - Osceola</b><br/><i>Complete Seminole coverage. 34 issues, \$48 (FL res. add \$3.36 tax)</i></p> <p><b>13 GEORGIA - The Georgia Bulldog Magazine</b><br/><i>The official magazine of UGA athletics. 30 issues, \$30</i></p> <p><b>14 GEORGIA TECH - The Sting</b><br/><i>In-depth look at Yellow Jacket athletics. 13 issues, \$21.95</i></p> <p><b>15 ILLINOIS - Fighting Illini</b><br/><i>Official magazine of University of Illinois athletics. 18 issues, \$32.95</i></p> <p><b>16 INDIANA - Inside Indiana</b><br/><i>Keep up with all the Hoosier happenings. 26 issues, \$36.95</i></p> <p><b>17 IOWA STATE - Cyclone Illustrated</b><br/><i>Spotlighting the Iowa State athletic program. 29 issues, \$38.95</i></p> <p><b>18 KANSAS - Jayhawk Insider</b><br/><i>The ultimate source on Jayhawk sports. 24 issues, \$37</i></p> <p><b>19 KENTUCKY - Cats' Pause</b><br/><i>The authority on Wildcat athletics. 35 issues, \$47.50</i></p> <p><b>20 LOUISIANA STATE - Tiger Rag</b><br/><i>LSU coverage from bayou country. 34 issues, 2 previews, \$48</i></p> | <p><b>21 LOUISVILLE - The Scorecard</b><br/><i>Complete coverage of the Cardinals. 36 issues, \$25</i></p> <p><b>22 MARYLAND - Terrapin Times</b><br/><i>The inside scoop on Maryland athletics. 12 issues, \$39.95</i></p> <p><b>23 MIAMI - Cane Sport</b><br/><i>The only source for Hurricane news. 21 issues, \$32</i></p> <p><b>24 MICHIGAN - The Wolverine</b><br/><i>The total Wolverine sports coverage publication. 25 issues, \$39.95</i></p> <p><b>25 MICHIGAN STATE - The Spartan</b><br/><i>A must for all Spartan fans. 18 issues, \$32.95</i></p> <p><b>26 MISSISSIPPI - The Ole Miss Spirit</b><br/><i>The Ole Miss sports authority. 32 issues, \$40</i></p> <p><b>27 MISSISSIPPI STATE - Dawgs Bite</b><br/><i>Official Mississippi State sports journal. 38 issues, \$30</i></p> <p><b>28 NORTH CAROLINA - Carolina Blue</b><br/><i>Tar Heel sports coverage at its finest. 40 issues, \$39.95</i></p> <p><b>29 NORTH CAROLINA STATE - The Wolfpacker</b><br/><i>Keep an eye on the Wolfpack all year long. 20 issues, \$27.95</i></p> <p><b>30 NOTRE DAME - Blue &amp; Gold Illustrated</b><br/><i>No. 1 source on the Fighting Irish. 20 issues, \$37.95</i></p> <p><b>31 OHIO STATE - Buckeye Sports Bulletin</b><br/><i>Buckeye sports coverage doesn't get any better. 30 issues, \$45</i></p> <p><b>32 PENN STATE - Blue White Illustrated</b><br/><i>The news source for Nittany Lion fans. 29 issues, \$42</i></p> <p><b>33 PURDUE - Gold &amp; Black Illustrated</b><br/><i>Boilermaker coverage at its best. 26 issues, \$35.95</i></p> <p><b>34 SOUTH CAROLINA - Spurs &amp; Feathers</b><br/><i>Complete coverage of Gamecock athletics. 38 issues, \$32</i></p> <p><b>35 SYRACUSE - The Big Orange</b><br/><i>The only source for Orangemen fans. 28 issues, \$40</i></p> <p><b>36 TENNESSEE - Rocky Top Views</b><br/><i>Independent magazine covering the Volunteers. 33 issues, \$39.95</i></p> <p><b>37 VIRGINIA TECH - The Hokie Huddler</b><br/><i>The official magazine of Virginia Tech sports. 33 issues, \$34.95</i></p> <p><b>38 WAKE FOREST - Gold Rush</b><br/><i>Get the latest on Demon Deacon sports. 16 issues, \$24.95</i></p> <p><b>39 WASHINGTON - Sports Washington</b><br/><i>In-depth Husky sports coverage. 17 issues, \$34.95</i></p> <p><b>40 WEST VIRGINIA - Blue &amp; Gold News</b><br/><i>Excellent coverage of Mountaineer athletics. 32 issues, \$32.95</i></p> |
|---|---|

Number and Name of Publication: No.

Amount Enclosed: \$

☐ Check ☐ MasterCard ☐ Visa

Card No.:

Exp. Date:

Send To:

Address:

City:

State:  Zip:  -

Phone:

ALA

Mail to: CSPA SUBSCRIPTIONS, P.O. Box 692, Holmes, PA 19043-0692





P.O. Box 6104  
Tuscaloosa, AL 35486-6104  
(205) 345-5074  
FAX (205) 345-1260  
E-Mail: BamaMag @ aol.com  
For subscriptions: 1-800-713-2261

## Editorial & Staff Directory

Publisher: Lynne McNair  
Editor: Kirk McNair  
Circulation Director: Mary Ellen Palardy  
Assistant to the Publisher: Vera Dowdle  
Director of Promotions: Julia McNair  
Photo Editor: Barry Fikes  
Artist: Dan Proctor

### Contributing Writers:

John Barnes, Stephen Craig,  
Donna Fromme, Louise Ford,  
Donald F. Staffo, Charley Thornton,  
Andrew Varble II

### Contributing Photographers:

Steven Fikes, Spectrum-Southeast,  
Butch Dill, University of Alabama

### Computer Consultant:

Stephen Bushery, ComSouth

## Publishing Information

'BAMA, INSIDE THE CRIMSON TIDE (USPS 489-470; ISSN 0195-0975) is published monthly for ten months from August to May by College Sports Publications, Inc., 2116 8th Street, Tuscaloosa, Alabama 35401. Editorial office is located at 2116 8th Street, Tuscaloosa, Alabama 35401-2134. POSTMASTER: Send change of address to 'BAMA, INSIDE THE CRIMSON TIDE, P.O. Box 6104, Tuscaloosa, AL 35486-6104.

Second class postage paid at Tuscaloosa, Alabama, and at additional mailing office. Subscription rate is \$35.00 per year. Foreign subscriptions \$10.00 per additional. Change of address: Six weeks advance notice, and old address as well as new required. Address all correspondence to: Post Office Box 6104, Tuscaloosa, Alabama 35486-6104. Not responsible for unsolicited manuscripts or photographs unless accompanied by return postage. Copyright © 1996 College Sports Publications, Inc. All rights reserved. Reproduction in whole or in part without written permission is prohibited.

*Get the latest Crimson Tide  
sports updates!*



# Hotline

# 1-900-860-1979

Charge is  
\$2 for first minute,  
\$1 each additional minute

Callers under 18 obtain parents' permission  
24-Hour Service

Calls may be made from TouchTone  
or rotary dial telephone

### FOOTBALL UPDATES

Daily (Selection 2) by 8 p.m. CT after practices beginning March 7  
and Weekly (Selection 3) by 7 p.m. CT each Sunday beginning March 3

### UPDATES ON ALL BAMA SPORTS

Updated within an hour of the completion of men's basketball games  
and weekly by 7 p.m. CT Sundays (Selection 4)

### RECRUITING INFORMATION

Updates by 7 p.m. CT each Sunday (Selection 5)

A service of 'BAMA Magazine  
2116 8th Street Tuscaloosa, Alabama 35401 (205) 345-5074

CHARTER MEMBER

# CSPA

College Sports  
Publishers Association

P.O. Box 13515  
(904) 372-1215

Gainesville, FL 32604  
FAX (904) 372-2283

'BAMA, Inside The Crimson Tide/MARCH '96





INSIDE THE CRIMSON TIDE

MARCH, 1996

VOLUME 18, NUMBER 3

On the cover: Alabama Head Football Coach Gene Stallings doesn't have much rebuilding to do this year and so the Crimson Tide's spring football practice will involve more time on putting in plans than on identifying top players. See Page 12.

Barry Fikes Photo

# CONTENTS



Page 6

## Basketball Recruiting:

### Bama Still Has Some Work To Do

Although Alabama Head Basketball Coach David Hobbs added some top players in the early signing period, the work isn't signing. In the April signing period Hobbs and his staff will attempt to sign three or four new players.

6

by Kirk McNair

## Football Signees:

### Scholarship Limits Have Effect

Because of NCAA probation, Alabama could sign only 12 new football prospects in February. As a result, Alabama Head Coach Gene Stallings said the Tide had to recruit by need. Those needs appear to have been filled with a class short on quantity but high on quality.

7

by Stephen Craig

## Soccer & Volleyball Signees:

### Football Isn't Only Recruiting Game

Although football draws most of the public attention when it comes to recruiting, all sports must find new players to sign. Alabama's women's soccer and volleyball teams also had February additions.

10

## Spring Training:

### Things Will Move More Quickly

Gene Stallings returns more starters than in any previous year as he looks ahead to the 1996 football season. Because of that, more emphasis will be placed on putting in the offense and the defense and aspects of the kicking game when spring drills get under way March 7.

12

by Kirk McNair

## Ozell Powell:

### His Goal Is To Be Lighter, Stronger

As defensive tackle Ozell Powell prepares for spring training and his senior season in 1996, he knows that he must lose weight, increase his strength and get a little quicker. He has the experience of having plenty of playing time when he is in good shape.

16

by Donald F. Staffo

## Golf Outlook:

### Juniors Provide Strength On Links

Both the men's and women's golf teams have good players who are underclassmen and both women's Coach Betty Palmer and men's Coach Dick Spybey are expecting good things this spring.

20

by Donna Fromme

## Tennis Outlook:

### There's A Building Process Going On

Alabama's women's team was strong last year, but suffered severe squad losses and has had to bring in talented newcomers. The men's squad, which was down in 1995, is rebuilding primarily with new players.

22

by Donna Fromme

## Dax Norris:

### Leading Tide To Baseball's Next Level

Alabama senior catcher Dax Norris is the unofficial captain of the Crimson Tide baseball team. He was pleased with Alabama's success in 1995, but wants 1996 to be a year in which the Tide takes it one step further, to the College World Series.

24

by John Barnes

## The Departments

Football Depth Chart By Class	11
Football Roster	15
Scorecard	26
1995-96 Winter Sports Results	28
1996 Spring Sports Schedules	29

11
15
26
28
29



Page 24



# Bama Still Has Some Work To Do

by Kirk McNair

### Tide men will add three or four in April signing period

Alabama basketball fans can already see the importance of replacing some key players next year. Part of the work was done in the early signing period when Crimson Tide Head Coach David Hobbs and his staff signed three players, all of them at least 6-9. That class was good enough to rank 14th in the nation as determined by *Basketball Times*.



David Hobbs

However, the work is not finished.

The next signing period for basketball (and most other sports) begins in early April. Hobbs will have at least three and possibly four scholarships to give. Alabama has only 11 players on scholarship this year, two under the limit of 13. The Tide has four seniors to replace, and all of them—center Roy Rogers, point guard Marco Whitfield, guard Marvin Orange and forward Anthony Brown—have been key performers. (And prior to this season, how many people thought the key to recruiting in 1995-96 would be replacing Roy Rogers and Marco Whitfield?)

A fourth scholarship will be available for use this spring if center Wade Kaiser elects to give up basketball. Kaiser, who has one year of eligibility remaining, has already earned his undergraduate degree and is working on a master's degree in business administration. He has been unable to participate this year because of a recurring injury to his foot.

It is believed that Alabama's top priority for the spring is to add a point guard, since freshman Brian Williams will be the only point guard in the program after this season. The Tide is also looking for an inside scorer. Tide coaches are known to be involved with both high school and junior college players as the spring signing period approaches, and there is also the continuing rumor of Alabama having the inside track on a big man in Europe, with the top competition for him the European professional teams, not another American college.

Alabama's emphasis in recruiting has traditionally been in-state high school players. However, the cupboard has been somewhat bare in that area

in recent years. Things have picked up the past two seasons in Alabama high school basketball and there are expected to once again be some major college prospects in the state next year.

The top in-state players available for signing this year appear to be a pair of forwards from defending state champion Montgomery Jeff Davis. The Tide's Williams was the catalyst of that team a year ago, but Jeff Davis has stayed in the thick of the state title race this year with a pair of 6-7 inside players, Rod Murray and Isaac Spencer. The biggest question with both is academics.

When Bama missed out on the state's top guard in the early signing period (Selma's Julius Robinson signing with Auburn), the search for a high school point guard apparently went very far. The only point guard whose name has been linked with Alabama for signing in the late period is Tony Parker, 6-2, from Rolling Heights, California. Parker, who ranks among the top 10 players in the nation at his position, is considering a number of schools, including Clemson, Seton Hall, New Orleans and Loyola Marymount.

Bama is also thought to be involved with a handful of prep forwards, including power forward Kris Hunter, 6-8, of Tallahassee (Florida) University High School; power forward Mario Bland, 6-7, 240, of Jackson (Mississippi) Callaway; and wing forward Shawn Marion, 6-6, of Clarksville, Tennessee. Bama is only vaguely mentioned with the top prospect in Canada, 6-10 power forward Jamar Magliore of Toronto.

Junior college players have been very good to the Alabama basketball program in recent years, and the Tide is once again linked with some standout junior college performers.

Among the guard prospects is one in Alabama, Casey Green, 6-3, of Southern

Union in Wadley. The Tide has also been mentioned with point guard George Wallace of Chaffey (California) and 6-1 Kerry Thompson of Tallahassee (Florida).

The most talked-about junior college player connected with Bama is forward Horatio Webster, 6-8, of Connors State in Oklahoma, considered the number one power forward prospect in junior college this year. There have been reports that Webster has committed to Alabama, but those are probably premature reports. He is considering a long list of schools, including Southeastern Conference members Auburn, Florida, Kentucky, LSU and Tennessee, as well as UNLV, Arizona State, Oklahoma and Oklahoma State.

Bama is also mentioned with the number one junior college center in the nation, Lorenzo Hall of Frank Phillips in Texas. Hall is also linked with Kentucky, Georgia, Seton Hall and Wake Forest.

A seemingly likely prospect for Alabama would be forward Donnie Johnson, 6-7, of Pearl River Junior College in Poplarville, Mississippi. Johnson is from Selma.

Other junior college prospects who have been linked to the Tide are power forward Demetrius Alexander of Hutchinson (Kansas), power forward Doug Beatty of New Mexico Junior College, and wing Rashad Tucker of Southeastern Junior College in Iowa.

It appears that Alabama is no longer involved with some prospects linked with the Tide prior to the early signing period, notably center Lester Earl of Baton Rouge, Louisiana; forward Patrick Ngongba from the Central Republic of Africa, who is playing at Calvert Hall in Endicott, Maryland; and junior college forward Rubin Patterson of Independence, Kansas, who has said he will return to his home state of Ohio, either at Ohio State or Cincinnati.

## Update On Signees

Alabama's December basketball signees have done very well in their final seasons before joining the Crimson Tide.

Jeremy Hays, the 6-10, 215-pound center and strong forward from Boaz, has led Coach Eric Dyrar's team into the state playoffs. Hays has maintained the 23-points-per-game scoring average he carried as a junior at Boaz, while improving his rebounding mark to 14.3 per game and blocking 7.0 shots per game. He has hit 68 per cent of his field goals and 73 per cent of his free throws.

Alfred Moss, a 6-9, 215-pound center for Coach Harold Goodman at Newnan (Georgia) High School, led his team to a 21-6 record, including a school record 17-game winning streak. He averaged 17 points, 9 rebounds and 5 blocked shots per game and hit 85 per cent from the field and 78 per cent of his free throws.

Ricky Poole, a 6-9, 190-pound wing player for Coach Brad Franz at Otero Junior College in

Colorado, has been everything his coach hoped he would be as a sophomore. "If there is a better wing player in junior college, I'd like to see him," Franz said. "He'll be at least an all-region player." Otero was to begin its league tournament in early March. Through regular season play Poole averaged 16.9 points and 7.0 rebounds per game as he hit 50 per cent of his field goal attempts and 76 per cent of his free throw tries. Franz added, "I've read a lot of stuff about the academic problems of some of the junior college transfers in the Southeastern Conference. You don't have to worry about Ricky. He had a 3.4 grade point average his freshman year and he had a 3.6 the first semester this year."

On the women's side, Alabama signee Nicole Carruth of Sulligent led her team into the state tournament. In the regional tournament she set a new Class 3A record for three-point shots made. She hit six treys en route to a 33-point scoring night in a 72-47 win over Mobile's UMS Wright in the first round of region play. She also had six rebounds, 11 assists and five steals in that game.

—Kirk McNair



# Scholarship Limits Have Effect

by Stephen Craig

## Bama had to recruit for need with only 12 grants

**B**ecause of an NCAA penalty, Alabama's football staff was recruiting with one hand tied behind its back this winter. After being able to sign only 14 players in 1995, the Tide was limited to only 12 this year. Next year Bama will be able to go after the full allotment of 25.

Despite the limit, Alabama actually signed 15 players this recruiting season. However, two of those did not count against the limit since they were December signees who were replacements for players lost to injury. Defensive end Michael Myers of Vicksburg, by way of Hinds (Mississippi) Junior College, is already enrolled after signing in December. Another December signee, Brenon Meadows, a transfer center from Louisville, has been with the Tide since last August. Alabama signed 13 rather than 12 to guard against the likelihood that one signee will not be academically eligible.

Primarily because of the limited number of scholarships Alabama could offer, the self-appointed recruiting experts are not giving the Tide high marks for this group. (Those same experts usually add that it is a second poor class for Alabama, although all indications are that last year's class of 14 was an excellent one.)

Regardless of the opinion of the recruiting experts, Alabama Head Coach Gene Stallings called the class "satisfactory." Out of necessity, Stallings had to abandon his usual philosophy of recruiting the best over-all players available, opting for a revised version in which he attempted to fill positions according to need.

"We had to address need," Stallings said.

"Recruiting a limited number was very difficult. We left a lot of good football players on the table."

Alabama did not even attempt to sign a quarterback or a halfback because those are not immediate needs. The Tide's narrowed focus centered on the offensive and defensive lines, fullback, safety and receiver. From this class, Alabama finished with five offensive linemen, five defensive linemen, one wide receiver, one safety, one fullback, one tight end and a linebacker. Stallings and his staff feel confident in their decisions, and expect the majority of this class to make contributions this fall.

Here is a look at Alabama's signees:

Tim Bowens, wide receiver, 6-1, 195. Bowens is the only wide receiver prospect signed by Alabama. A good athlete that played both wide receiver and defensive back in high school, Bowens is slated on the offensive side of the ball for the Tide. He has 4.4 speed in the 40-yard dash, and caught 80 per cent of the passes thrown to him, despite that he often faced frequent double and triple coverage. Bowens earned all-state honors his junior and senior seasons and was a four-year starter at Brooks High School in Killen for Coach Tim Yeager. He helped Brooks to an 8-4 record and pushed them to the second round of the Class 4A state playoffs. Snagging 58 passes, Bowens recorded 810 yards receiving, scored 14 touchdowns and returned four punts for touchdowns. Defensively he was a play-maker, intercepting seven passes as a junior and senior, returning two for touchdowns. He also scored a pair of touchdowns on fake field goals and averaged 12 tackles per game. He picked Alabama over Auburn.

Jamie Carter, defensive lineman, 6-3, 290. Jamie, a four-year starter at Neshoba Central in Philadelphia, Mississippi, earned two years of all-state honors, along with prep All-America accolades following his senior season. He was *Superprep's* 23rd-ranked prospect in the South, and like many former Tide defensive linemen, Carter has great

speed as a pass rusher, clocking in at 4.9 in the 40. He recorded 68 tackles and 12 sacks this past season, along with eight in his junior campaign. Also as a junior he tallied 55 solo tackles, 35 unassisted, and earned all-district and all-area honors. Coached by Terry Allen, Carter hails from the same high school as current Tide starter Will Friend. He selected Bama over Tennessee.

Paul Hogan, center, 6-3, 240. Hogan was a two-year starter and offensive captain for Coach Nick Hyder at Valdosta High School, playing both snapper and defensive end. As a senior he earned all-state honors, and was picked to play center for Georgia in the Florida-Georgia All-Star game. Hogan was an early commitment to Alabama, and chose the Tide over school such as Georgia, Georgia Tech and LSU. A Georgia Super 11 and *Street & Smith* Prep Senior to Watch, Hogan was also an all-region selection. A good athlete, Hogan also plays baseball.

Adam Joiner, tight end/offensive lineman, 6-3, 265. Playing for Coach Carl Madison at Milton (Florida) High, Joiner graded 90 percent as an offensive lineman. As a versatile athlete, Joiner also enjoyed success at tight end, catching 29 passes for 397 yards. At tight end, Joiner ranked in the top five nationally due to his ability to catch the ball but even better ability to block. A first-team all-state selection, Joiner also earned notice as a pre-season prep All-America and All-Northwest Florida honoree. Joiner helped Milton to a perfect 10-0 record and toward the playoffs, until a broken right foot ended his prep career. He selected Alabama over Florida and Notre Dame.

Jason Jones, safety, 5-11, 185. Tuscaloosa prep star Jason Jones could emerge as the sleeper of this class. An all-state selection from Central High School, Jones played on the 6A championship Falcon team, intercepting nine passes, four in one game, and returning one for a touchdown his senior campaign. Not listed by anyone as a player to watch, Jones was a big-play man for the Falcons, possessing that knack for being



Jamie Carter



Paul Hogan



Adam Joiner





Jason Jones

around the football. In his senior season Jones recorded 71 tackles, three fumble recoveries and nine pass break-ups. He was a *Tuscaloosa News* top 16 selection. Jones picked Bama over Houston, which recruited him as a running back.

Corey Kinnebrew, offensive lineman, 6-3, 280. The name itself carries potential for greatness. The son of former National Football League fullback Larry Kinnebrew, Corey only played one year of high school football, but still earned all-state honors for Rome High School and Coach Sam Pickett. Kinnebrew was used in short-yardage situations as a fullback, but is better on the line. Grading 85 percent on average, Corey had 22 knockdown blocks, while on defense recording 33 tackles, five pass break-ups, five caused fumbles and five fumble recoveries. Also a member of the Georgia team for the Florida-Georgia All-Star game, Kinnebrew's size and strength made him the state's top-ranked heavyweight wrestler. He is also an outstanding shot put and discus man for the track and field team. He chose the Tide over Mississippi State.

Dustin McClintock, fullback, 6-3, 235. Dustin is a player who coaches hope will fill an immediate need, as weight gain has forced Reggie Grimes out of the fullback spot. Dustin was an all-area selection for three years, along with earning second team all-state honors in talent-rich Texas. McClintock was one of 33 players from Texas selected to play in the Texas-Oklahoma All-Star game, representing Ford



Dustin McClintock

High School in Quinlan. A two-way player at tailback and linebacker for Coach Conley Bland, he rushed for more than 1,900 yards and 19 touchdowns as a senior (averaging 8.7 yards per carry), totaled 4,405 total career rushing yards. Defensively he also enjoyed success, recording 146 tackles during his senior season. He is also a top basketball and baseball player and throws the shot put and discus for the track and field team. Dustin chose Alabama over Purdue.

Brenon Meadows, center/guard, 6-1, 285. A two-year starter for Louisville at guard, Meadows may be recognized from his playing days at Birmingham's Berry High School. Meadows was a two-year starter for the Cardinals as a guard, and was an all-state and Super All-Metro lineman at Berry. Meadows was the state discus champion in high school, and sat out the 1995 season at Alabama as a transfer. As a member of the scout team he played both center and guard and is projected as a candidate at center.

Michael Myers, defensive end, 6-3, 270. A junior college All-America in 1994 and 1995, Myers recorded 63 tackles, eight sacks, five caused fumbles and three recoveries last season for Hinds Junior College. As a freshman at Hinds, Myers tallied 46 tackles and 20 sacks. Coached by Gene Murphy at Vicksburg (Mississippi) High School, he earned all-state and all-region honors and signed with Ole Miss out of high school. He picked Alabama over Tennessee and LSU in December.

Heath Panks, defensive lineman, 6-4, 280.



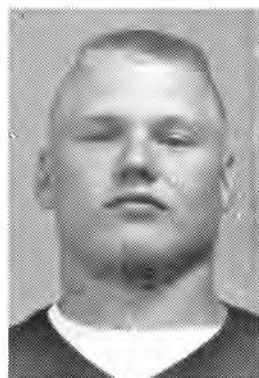
Michael Myers

Originally signed with LSU, this *Parade* All-America and all-state selection from Salmen High in Slidell, Louisiana, has superstar potential. As a junior and senior he earned first team all-state 4A and district MVP honors. In 1995 he had 94 tackles, 14 sacks, four fumble recoveries, one interception, four pass break-ups and three blocked punts. For his career, Panks boasts 163 tackles, 20 quarterback sacks, 27 tackles for losses and six fumble recoveries. Panks spent three years at Pearl River (Mississippi) Community College. He left LSU prior to the start of classes in 1993 and transferred to junior college. He was redshirted that year, played in 1994, then sat out again last season to concentrate on academics. He is expected to graduate this spring and be academically eligible. He had planned to go back to LSU following the 1994 season, but failed to graduate from Pearl River. Both his previous commitments to LSU went to then-Head Coach Curley Hallman, who was instrumental in luring Panks to Alabama this time around.

John "Griff" Redmill, defensive lineman, 6-6, 248. Another in-state selection, Redmill made the *Tuscaloosa News* Sweet 16 list and earned all-state honors this season. Redmill was busy last season, logging 44 solo tackles, 42 assists, four sacks, six pass break-ups and one fumble recovery. At season's end, Redmill benched 290, squatted 400 and was clocked at 4.9 in the 40. He also showed his athletic versatility by high jumping in track and was a member of the basketball team.



Griff Redmill



Kenny Smith



Kelvis White



Although Redmill underwent post-season knee surgery, he has been given a clean bill of health. Redmill's high school coach at Walker High School in Jasper was Bubba Davis. He selected Alabama over Ole Miss.

Kenny Smith, defensive lineman, 6-7, 260. The *Atlanta Journal-Constitution* listed Smith in its Top 25 prospects in the South, along with ranking number three on the *Birmingham Post-Herald's* Ten Most Wanted list, and he finished the season a first team all-state and All-America defensive lineman. A tremendous athlete, Kenny's quickness and strength enabled him to record 110 tackles, 52 for losses and 22 sacks, including five in one game, as a prep senior. He runs the 40-yard dash in 4.6 and benches 350 pounds. Smith also saw action at tight end for Coach Phillip Lolley at North Jackson in Stevenson, snagging 15 receptions for a 14-yards-per-catch average. He picked Alabama over Tennessee and Auburn.

Rob-E Staten, linebacker, 6-1, 250. Most of Staten's reputation comes from being a hard-hitting linebacker, as he recorded 137 tackles as a prep senior and more than 400 for his career. Staten was rated one of the Top 10 prospects in Mississippi by the *Jackson Clarion Ledger*. As a senior he earned all-state honors, showing versatility by also rushing for 1,545 yards and 15 touchdowns as a fullback. A powerlifter, Staten has bench pressed 435 pounds. His high school coach was Bruce Merchant, who says Staten has always wanted to wear the Crimson and White. "He's been wanting to play at Alabama so bad," Merchant said. "He's always wearing something with Alabama on it." Staten picked Bama over Mississippi State.

Gorman Thornton, tight end, 6-5, 250. Many wrote Thornton off as an Alabama signee, but the *Birmingham News* Player of the Year and the Alabama Sports Writers Association Mr. Football surprised the "experts" by inking with the Tide. Thornton snagged 24 passes for 360 yards and two touchdowns as a senior, adding to his 23 receptions and 438 yards and five touchdowns as a junior. Thornton is a good all-around athlete, playing a key role in Montgomery Jeff Davis' state basketball championship as a junior, as he teamed with current Tide standout Brian Williams. His brother is former Alabama and New York Giant lineman George Thornton. Thornton's high school coach was Charles Lee. Gorman picked Bama over Auburn.

Kelvis White, offensive lineman, 6-3, 265. White earned all-state honors in 1994 and 1995 at defensive line for Courtland, which won the state 1A championship in 1995. As a junior, he placed fifth at the state track meet in the shot put and third in the discus. A two-way starter for his coach and father, Louis White, Kelvis's brother Laron is a starting offensive guard for the Tide. White chose Alabama over Notre Dame, Memphis and Louisville.

## Walk-Ons Will Boost Numbers

With a limited number of scholarships, Alabama is making a concentrated effort to attract walk-on football players this fall. Alabama Head Coach Gene Stallings said, "We have always had a large number of walk-ons who have contributed, and we have been appreciative of what they have meant to Alabama football. I suspect with the scholarship limits that a number of players are thinking the opportunity to walk on and play at Alabama is good right now."

In recapping Alabama's 1996 football recruiting, Stallings mentioned that a placekicker had been one consideration, but the Tide did not sign a placekicker. "Fortunately, I think that need has been addressed," Stallings said. Although he didn't name anyone, Stallings was almost certainly referring to Jonah Dismukes, a two-time all-state performer from St. Paul's Episcopal School in Mobile.

Dismukes, who also played tight end and



Jonah Dismukes

kicker, was good on 12 of 14 field goal attempts in 1995. Five of those were over 40 yards with a long of 47 yards. As a junior he was good on eight of nine field goal attempts and as a sophomore hit all six of his attempts. He is his school's top soccer player. He has also attended the Ray

Pelfrey Kicking School the past two summers, finishing first in distance and second in accuracy in camp competitions both years. Dismukes had originally planned to accept a scholarship offer at Northwestern.

There have also been published reports of two other highly-regarded players passing up scholarship opportunities in order to walk on at Alabama.

Ty Babcock, a 6-5, 265-pound center at Albertville, and Jahi Henley, a running back and defensive back at Hunter's Lane High School in Nashville, Tennessee, have said they will join the Crimson Tide in August.

-Kirk McNair



## RECRUITING FANS!



Subscribe today for the "BAMA REPORT"

And get complete Up-to-Date coverage of the high school preps and JUCO'S for 1996-1997 who are interested and leaning to The University of Alabama.

4 complete issues:

September/pre-season  
December/post-season  
January/pre-signing  
Post signing Wrap-up

2 newsletters:

January 1, 1997  
February 1, 1997

Exclusive coverage of recruits interested and leaning to the CRIMSON TIDE

**ONLY \$29.95**

Also for \$39.95 get the "BAMA REPORT" plus complete coverage of all recruits in the southeast and their college preference.

Send check  
or money order to:

The Southeastern Prospect  
**BAMA REPORT**  
P.O. Box 1273  
Rome, Georgia 30162

**ORDER BEFORE MAY 1, 1996 AND SAVE \$5.00**



# Football Isn't Only Recruiting Game

While attention is riveted on football recruiting in January, other fall sports are also recruiting. Alabama's soccer and volleyball teams also added performers on and after the February 7 national signing date.

Here is a look at the newest members of the Crimson Tide in those women's sports.

Defending champions don't rebuild. They reload. Such is the case with the Alabama women's soccer team, as the defending SEC Western Division champions completed the recruiting season by adding six signees to its already talented roster.

Here are the new signees for Coach Don Staley:

Nellie Barnes, 5-7, is the only non-fresh-

man in the '96 class, coming South from the University of Minnesota. As a college freshman Barnes earned All-Big Ten honors. She is a stopper and midfielder.

Kathleen Foody, 5-4, is from Voorhees, New Jersey. A four-year starter for Camden Catholic, Foody scored 73 career goals and was a member of the Olympic Development Program U-16 and U-17 national teams. Foody also plays in the South Jersey Soccer League for a top program, the Medford Strikers. She is a striker.

Martha Mouring, 5-4, is from Spring, Texas. A member and captain of one of Texas' top club teams, Klein Challenge, Mouring was also a highly-rated member of the South Texas ODP state team for three years. Mouring was a member of two championship teams with the Challenge and earned all-district honors as a freshman for Klein Oak High School. Ironically, both of her parents are graduates of Auburn. She is a midfielder and defender.

Laura Reddin, 5-6, is from Germantown, Tennessee. As a junior, Reddin played on the state championship team for Germantown High School and was selected to the all-state team in 1994. Other honors include all-metro (1993-94), all-region (1994), All-Metro Best of Preps (1993-95) and all-tournament in both the regional and state tournaments. She currently plays club soccer with the '78 Memphis Futbol Club, which has won five consecutive state championships. She is a midfielder and defender.

Tracey Timmerman, 5-3, is from San Antonio, Texas. As a co-captain of her Tom C. Clark High School team, Timmerman has earned spots on all-city, all-district and all-region teams. Experienced with the ODP, she was a member of the '78 Area Team (1993-95) and '78 State Team (1994-95). Other honors for Timmerman include membership on the Lanzera National Select Women's Team and the 1995 Lanzera National Select European Tour. She is a striker and midfielder.

Carrie Warner, 5-6, is from Columbia, South Carolina. A talented prep goalkeeper, Warner's presence will provide stability in the nets to back-up all-conference keeper Amy Pseja. Warner is a good athlete who will have earned six varsity letters by graduation, and has led her U-19 club team, Trident United, to three consecutive state championships. Warner has started in goal

since seventh grade for a team that consistently makes the playoffs, and has garnered numerous honors including: all-state (1995), all-region selection (1993-96), all-area (1995), and member of the South Carolina Select Team (1995-96)

Coach Dorothy Franco-Reed has added three new performers to the Crimson Tide volleyball squad. They are:

Amy Foytik is a 5-10 outside hitter who has spent the past two seasons being coached by Steve Houghton at Kankakee (Illinois) Junior College, where she was a *Volleyball* magazine third team All-America. She was a two-time all-conference performer as a high school player at St. Charles, Illinois and earned all-state honors as a senior, when she was selected to the *Chicago Sun-Times* all-star team.

Laura LeBlanc is a 5-11 outside hitter from Lafayette (Louisiana) High School, where she was a teammate of current Tider Lisa Bordes. Her high school squad, coached by Ursula Quoyeser, reached the state quarter-finals the past two years after reaching the semi-finals in 1993. She was named to both the athletic and academic all-state teams as a senior. She was also named Acadia Most Valuable

Player. She was also her most valuable player in basketball and in field for her track and field squad. She is a member of the National Honor Society and recipient of a National Merit Scholarship.

Monica Morales is a 6-0 left side hitter from Colegio Sagrados Corazones High School in Guaynabo, Puerto Rico, where she was coached by Juan Carlos Gonzales. She has played volleyball since age 10 and was a member of the Puerto Rico National Team for youths under 17 in 1993, 1994 and 1995. In 1995 she was selected for the North-South Club All-Star Games and made the Puerto Rico National team. She has twice been named MVP in her league and was selected for all-star teams in 10 tournaments, earning MVP in seven of them.

—Stephen Craig and Russell Bryant



Nellie Barnes



Kathleen Foody



Martha Mouring



Laura Reddin



Tracey Timmerman



Carrie Warner



Laura LeBlanc



# 1996 Football Depth Chart By Class

Here is a depth chart by class of those who are scheduled to be on Alabama's football roster in 1996. It is important to remember that this is not a true depth chart. It should also be noted that spring training may result in some position changes, and that the positions of incoming freshmen are in some cases merely educated guesses. Most walk-ons are not included.

## Offense

Position	Senior	Junior	Sophomore	Redshirt Freshman	Incoming Freshman
Split End			Hall Feagin	Buchanan	Bowens
Left Tackle		Holliday	Spree	Samuels	
Left Guard		Friend	Sign		Kinnebrew
Center	Causey	Ray Meadows		M. Moore	Hogan Joiner
Right Guard	L. White Pennington		Swords		K. White
Right Tackle	DiMario	Jordan		McDonald	
Tight End	Hape	Rutledge		Waggoner	Thornton
Quarterback		Kitchens Tucker	Phillips Foust		
Halfback	Steger	Riddle	C. Alexander	Shaun Alexander	
Fullback		Scissum	Madden Trevis Smith		McClintock
Flanker	West	Abernathy Goss	Vaughn		
Placekicker	Watts	Covelli	Pflugner	Elder	Dismukes
Snapper	Lewis				

## Defense

Left End	Dowdle	Myers	Hood	Grimes	Redmill
Left Tackle	Powell	Panks	Harrison		Carter
Right Tackle	C. Warren	Kerley		Shawn Alexander	
Right End	Blackburn K. Moore	Walker			K. Smith
Strong Linebacker	Ralph Staten Tanks	Pickett	Hunter		
Middle Linebacker	Buckner Davis	Edwards Wagstaff Odom			Rob-E Staten
Weakside Linebacker	Floyd	Rudd	Harris Tito Smith		
Left Cornerback	High Reyes		Bryant		
Right Cornerback		Townsend	Winston	Hill	
Strong Safety	Jackson	Short			
Safety	Samuel Pruitt		Stanley Sigler		Jones
Punter	Stockton		Pope		
Snapper	Cook				



# Things Will Move More Quickly

by Kirk McNair

This will be Stallings' most experienced returning team

**G**ene Stallings is going to take a little different approach to football practice when spring training gets under way March 7. The Alabama head coach has re-structured his football staff, but that doesn't mean there are going to be a number of changes. However, the fact that Stallings will have most starters and a number of key back-up performers returning from 1995 means that Stallings and his coaches can move things along a little more quickly.

"The first few days I want the players jockeying for positions," Stallings said. "In the first half of spring training I'm going to try to find out who the best two players are at each position. The second part of spring practice I'm going to do everything that I can to put in our offense and defense and some phase of our kicking game, which I haven't done before."

In Stallings' previous spring drills the emphasis has been on fundamentals and on identifying the top two men at each position. With so many top players returning from last year, Stallings believes the identification process can be much quicker. Bama has never had more than 15 starters returning. This year the Tide has eight regular starters back on offense and nine regular starters back on defense. The Tide has 59 lettermen returning.

Plans call for Alabama to have eight of its 15 practices (and six of the ten full gear practices) prior to spring break beginning March 22. At that time Stallings expects that identification process to be completed. Practice resumes April 3 and concludes April 13, tentatively with an A-Day Game. There is a chance there will not be a spring game because of work going on at Bryant-Denny Stadium. Because of squad reductions, which make it very difficult to have two complete teams, coaches consider a spring game a wasted practice, but the tradition has continued for the sake of the fans.

Stallings said the general philosophy of the Crimson Tide would not change, even though there are new offensive and defensive coordinators. "We'll probably have a



Dabo Swinney

change or two, but nothing dramatic," he said. Assistant Head Coach Woody McCorvey, who has coached Bama's wide receivers the past six years, will be offensive coordinator and quarterbacks coach. His replacement as receivers coach is Dabo Swinney, elevated from graduate assistant status after an impressive job as coach of Alabama's scout team receivers the past two years. On defense, Mike Dubose is the new coordinator and Curley Hallman has taken over as coach of the secondary.

Hallman will also take over much of the responsibility for the overall kicking game. Stallings said the Tide will have more work in this area in the spring than has been the case in the past. Stallings is particularly determined to improve coverage, although most of the interest in the kicking game will center on who replaces Michael Proctor as placekicker.

If there is one thing to watch for as Alabama works on its overall strategy it is likely to be the offensive passing game. The Tide will still be ground-oriented, but the air attack is expected to feature a downfield passing game as opposed to the short passing assault.

Spring is traditionally the time for experimentation, and Stallings said there would be some of that. It has already been announced that Reggie Grimes is moving from fullback to defensive end. That's not so much a strategy decision as it is a result of Grimes' work in the weight room. Stallings noted that Grimes was big for a fullback when he ar-

rived at Alabama, 6-4 and 240. Half a year on the training table and in the weight room has pushed Grimes to the 278-pound mark. The head coach said there would probably be a few other moves, particularly in the first half of spring training, and mentioned the possibility of Matt Harrison, a back-up center, getting a look on the defensive line.

At least three players coming back from injuries are questionable for spring training. Wide receiver Calvin Hall has had a series of foot injuries, the latest coming last fall. Linebacker Tito Smith and walk-on defensive tackle Shawn Alexander are both coming off early fall knee surgery.

Stallings said he expects one advantage the Tide will have in spring training is a stronger team, owing to a more productive off-season program this winter.

Alabama returns nine players on offense who had starts last year, while 10 who started at one time or another return on defense. And while Proctor is gone from the special teams, Bama returns punter Hayden Stockton, snappers for both punts and placement, and holder Lance Tucker. The kick return specialists are also back.

One of those returning starters on defense will not take part in spring training. Outside linebacker Ralph Staten, who was suspended for one game last fall for a violation of team rules, was suspended for the spring for violation of another team rule this winter. Staten will have an opportunity to re-join the team in August.

**I**f there is one aspect of the offense that has been most questioned in recent years it is the play of the line. Stallings has promised, "You will see improvement in the offensive line this spring." He said that's for two reasons: One, only guard Maurice Belser who had a great deal of playing time last year, has graduated; Two, there are some young players who are going to challenge.

The returning starters are Joel Holliday at left tackle, Will Friend at left guard, John Causey at center, Laron White at right guard and Pete Dimario at right tackle. Sage Spree saw plenty of playing time behind Holliday, but otherwise there is not significant experience returning. Right guard Jeremy Pennington and center Michael Ray saw a little action, right tackle Chris Jordan not as much, among offensive line lettermen returning. Guards Chris Sign, Josh Swords and Rhett Crutchfield also return.





Dennis Riddle was Bama's top rusher in 1995, but he has plenty of competition for the starting job at halfback as Bama prepares for spring practice.

Barry Fikes Photo

However, Brenon Meadows, who performed with the scout team while sitting out his transfer year from Louisville, along with redshirt freshmen Jason McDonald and Chris Samuels, both tackles, and Mookie Moore are expected to add good depth. Meadows and Moore are both listed as centers, but one could move to guard.

Although the starting tight end, Tony Johnson, has graduated, Alabama is in great shape with Patrick Hape and Rod Rutledge returning. Both have had plenty of playing time, though few receptions. Last year Hape had four catches for 48 yards, Rutledge one reception for eight yards. There is a chance that redshirt freshman Clint Waggoner, a defensive end on the scout team last year (and a perfect 4.0 in the classroom), could get a look at tight end.

If there is an area of major concern on offense it is the wide receivers. Three of the four regulars in last year's rotation are gone. Toderick Malone, Curtis Brown and Chad Key have graduated, leaving only flanker Marcell West with meaningful playing time. One of Bama's brightest prospects is flanker Michael Vaughn, although Vaughn was used primarily as a punt return man last year. If West isn't the fastest man on the Alabama MARCH '96/BAMA, Inside The Crimson Tide

team, it may be that walk-on flanker Chad Goss is.

Calvin Hall was on the verge of moving into the regular rotation at split end when he suffered a broken foot last fall. Michael Feagin got most of his playing time as a kickoff return man, but he'll probably be number one at split end when practice begins. Shamar Buchanan, a redshirt freshman, was hurt part of last fall and was not a major force with the scout team at split end. Most of the receivers have had some work with Swinney.

Bama is very strong at halfback and quarterback, but fullback doesn't have a great deal of depth going into spring training.

Dennis Riddle took over as the starter at halfback last year and will be number one as spring work begins, but there is talented depth at the primary running back spot. Brian Steger has started and Curtis Alexander and Montoya Madden have some experience. Newcomer Shaun Alexander was very impressive on the scout team last fall.

Freddie Kitchens took over the starting job as quarterback late last year and returns for his junior season as the established number one man. Lance Tucker is listed as a quarterback, but will probably not figure

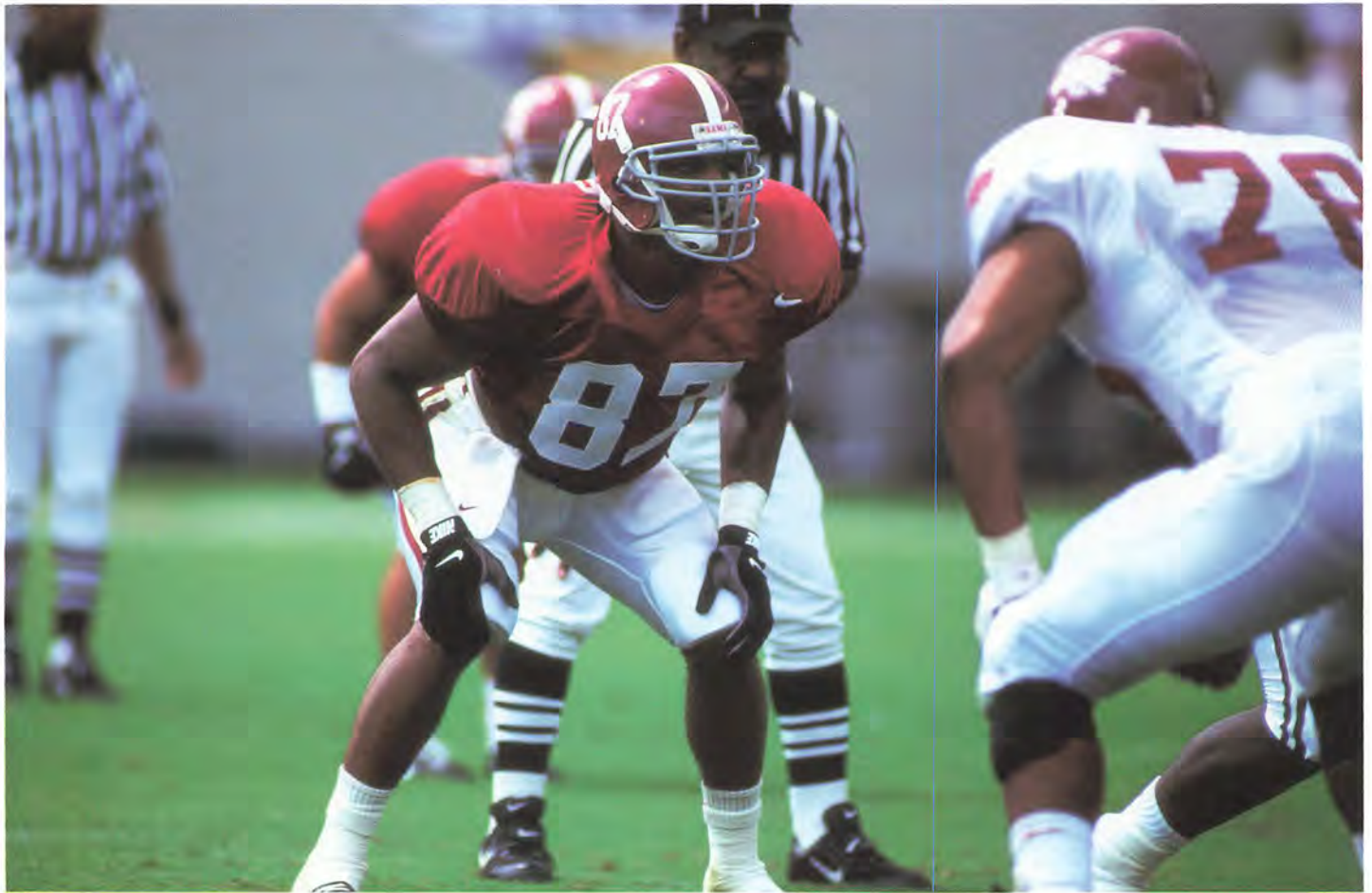
heavily into the competition. The battle for number two should be a good one with Warren Foust, who was number three last year after serving as scout team quarterback in 1994, and John David Phillips, who ran the scout team last fall.

Ed Scissum returns as starting fullback, but there is virtually no experience behind him. Trevis Smith, a converted linebacker, is the number two fullback. There is the possibility that Madden could work at fullback. He's small (5-9, 205), but capable.

There is no question that Alabama suffered meaningful graduation losses on the defensive line, but there is still a good deal of experience returning. Bama could easily put four men who have started on the defensive front. End is very strong, whereas tackle doesn't have as many experienced players.

Chris Hood showed flashes of greatness at left end last year. Although there has been some talk of Hood getting a look at tackle, he'll start out number one at end, ahead of Anthony Dowdell and Edgar Walker. Darrell Blackburn is a pass rushing specialist from his right end position. Kelvin Moore, who has also started, is behind him, and Moore is also





Dwayne Rudd was Alabama's leading tackler in 1995 and he's back to man an outside linebacker position. The Tide returns a number of top performers.

Barry Fikes Photo

capable of playing tackle. And there's a meaningful new name to throw into the mix at defensive end: Michael Myers was considered by many to be the number one defensive line prospect coming out of junior college this year. Additionally, former fullback Grimes joins the defensive line, probably at end.

The starting tackles, Ozell Powell on the left side and Eric Kerley on the right, were part-time starters last year. However, there is little experience behind them with walk-ons Chris Warren and Shawn Alexander listed as top reserves with the possibility that Matt Harrison will join the group from center on the offensive front.

Strongside Ralph Staten being off the squad this spring is not insignificant, but the linebacker corps is still a deep and talented outfit. Paul Pickett missed last fall with back surgery, but is expected back this spring. John Tanks also has experience at the strongside linebacker position and Eddie Hunter is in the mix.

Weakside linebacker Dwayne Rudd will be a candidate for the Butkus Award as the nation's top linebacker. There is also experi-

ence behind him in Steve Harris and Lamont Floyd. Tito Smith is expected to be at weakside linebacker if he is back from his injury.

John Walters has graduated at middle linebacker, but the Tide has two experienced back-up players returning in Fernando Davis and Tyrell Buckner, both seniors. Chris Edwards, Granison Wagstaff and Franz Odom are also listed at middle linebacker.

Alabama had to just about rebuild the secondary last year, but this year the Tide returns four starters (all of them potential all-stars) and several experienced back-up performers. There should not be a great deal of change in techniques under Hallman.

Right cornerback Deshea Townsend had a poor first half of last season as a tackler, but overall had an excellent season. He's backed by Owen Winston, who had most of his playing time on special teams, and redshirt freshman Thomas Hill. Fernando Bryant was very impressive as a true freshman starting at left cornerback. A pair of senior walk-ons, Tracy High and Marlon Reyes, are listed as top back-ups.

Kevin Jackson took over as starting strong safety midway through last season and was a big play performer. Andre Short is a solid performer behind Jackson.

Free safety has the most depth, although a couple of those are candidates at other spots. Cedric Samuel returns as the starter with Steve Stanley likely to be top back-up. Jeremy Pruitt, who is listed as a free safety, is also able to play strong safety, while Kelvin Sigler could be either a safety or a cornerback.

While kick coverage has been cited by Stallings as an area of special teams that will get attention in the spring, Tide coaches will also be judging the placekickers.

Kickoff man William Watts has never attempted a field goal or extra point in a game. He's got a strong leg, but his nickname—"Wild Thing"—is probably a tipoff to a concern Stallings might have to Watts as the placekicker. Three walk-on players have been mentioned in pre-spring talk. They are redshirt freshmen Ryan Pflugner and Daniel Elder and junior Tom Covelli.



# 1996 Alabama Spring Football Roster

(Class listed is for Fall)

NAME	POS.	CL.	HGT.	WGT.	EXP.	HOMETOWN	NAME	POS.	CL.	HGT.	WGT.	EXP.	HOMETOWN
Thad Abernathy	FI	Jr.	6-0	160	Sq	Enterprise	Chester Lewis	Sn	Sr.	6-4	236	2L	Tuscaloosa
Curtis Alexander	HB	Jr.	6-1	195	2L	Memphis	Montoya Madden	HB-FB	So.	5-9	205	1L	Town Creek
Shaun Alexander	HB	Fr.	6-1	195	RS	Florence, Ky.	Jason McDonald	OT	Fr.	6-6	300	RS	Theodore
Shawn Alexander	DT	Fr.	6-3	278	RS	Quinton	Chad McGehee	SS	So.	5-9	185	Sq	Rainbow City
Wes Allen	FI	So.					Brenon Meadows	C-G	Jr.	6-1	285	Sq	Birmingham
Brandon Anderson	SE	Fr.	6-0	187	Sq	Floral	Kelvin Moore	DE	Sr.	6-3	258	3L	Daphne
Elisha Baity	FB	So.	5-8	220	Sq	Greenville	Michael Moore	C	Fr.	6-6	290	RS	Fayette
Wesley Black	FI	Fr.	6-2	175	RS	Hoover	Patrick Morgan	FI	Fr.	6-0	175	RS	Birmingham
Darrell Blackburn	DE	Sr.	6-3	224	3L	Huntsville	Michael Myers	DE	Jr.	6-3	270	Tr	Vicksburg, Miss.
Matt Blake	C	Fr.	6-2	250	RS	Montgomery	Franz Odom	MLB	So.	6-1	240	Sq	Semmes
T.K. Bowman	SE	Jr.	6-1	165	Sq	Bigbee	Jeremy Pennington	OG	Sr.	6-2	272	3L	Vernon
Brian Brasseal	OT	Fr.	6-2	275	RS	Ashland	Matt Peters	HB	Fr.	5-9	180	RS	Talladega
Fernando Bryant	CB	So.	6-0	175	1L	Murfreesboro, Tenn.	Ryan Plugner	PK	Fr.	5-11	165	RS	Sarasota, Fla.
Shamari Buchanan	SE	Fr.	6-2	223	RS	Atlanta	Greg Phillips	SS	Fr.	5-11	190	RS	Mobile
Tyrell Buckner	MLB	Sr.	6-0	245	3L	Denison, Texas	John David Phillips	QB	So.	6-3	202	1L	Anniston
Bo Butler	DB	Fr.	5-9	185	RS	Scottsboro	Paul Pickett	OLB	Jr.	6-2	215	1L	LaGrange, Ga.
Michael Cassidy	SE	Sr.	6-1	173	Sq	Floral	Daniel Pope	P	So.	6-0	196	Sq	Alpharetta, Ga.
John Causey	C	Sr.	6-2	262	3L	Hayneville	Ozell Powell	DT	Sr.	6-5	305	3L	Greenville
Jackson Cook	Sn	Sr.	6-1	260	2L	Cullman	Jeremy Pruitt	S	Sr.	6-0	172	1L	Plainview
Tom Covelli	PK	Jr.	6-0	185	Sq	Chicago	Michael Ray	C	Jr.	6-5	305	1L	Boaz
Travis Crim	SS	Jr.	5-9	177	Sq	Clanton	Marlon Reyes	CB	Sr.	5-10	176	1L	Mexico City
Rhett Crutchfield	OG	So.	6-3	260	Sq	Birmingham	Dennis Riddle	HB	Jr.	6-0	195	2L	Tuscaloosa
Brian Cunningham	PK	So.	5-9	175	Sq	Birmingham	Dwayne Rudd	OLB	Jr.	6-2	232	2L	Batesville, Miss.
Derek Cunningham	CB	Jr.	5-8	150	Sq	Pelham	Jonathan Rudolph	OLB	So.	6-2	205	Sq	Mobile
Fernando Davis	MLB	Sr.	6-3	235	3L	Aberdeen, Miss.	Rod Rutledge	TE	Jr.	6-4	243	2L	Birmingham
Pete DiMario	OT	Sr.	6-4	276	3L	Tuscaloosa	Cedric Samuel	S	Sr.	5-9	177	3L	Demopolis
Billy Donner	OLB	Fr.	6-3	218	RS	Birmingham	Chris Samuels	OT	Fr.	6-6	275	RS	Mobile
Anthony Dowdell	DE	Sr.	6-1	226	2L	Columbus, Ga.	Ed Scissum	FB	Jr.	6-0	210	2L	Attalla
Chris Edwards	MLB	So.	6-2	215	1L	Bessemer	Andre Short	SS	Jr.	5-11	205	2L	LaGrange, Ga.
Daniel Elder	PK	Fr.	6-3	185	RS	Pensacola, Fla.	Chris Siebert	OLB	Jr.	6-1	185	Sq	West Limestone
Michael Feagin	SE	So.	5-9	172	1L	Greenville	Kelvin Sigler	S	So.	6-1	179	1L	Mobile
Lee Ferguson	OLB	Jr.	6-1	192	Sq	Albertville	Chris Sign	OG	So.	6-2	250	Sq	Arlington, Tex.
Kevin Flowers	DE	Jr.	6-0	206	Sq	Troy	Coleman Smith	SE	So.	6-0	185	Sq	Daphne
Lamont Floyd	OLB	Sr.	6-2	240	3L	Orange Park, Fla.	Tito Smith	OLB	So.	6-3	200	Sq	Birmingham
Marquis Forge	DT	Fr.	6-0	252	RS	Autaugaville	Trevis Smith	FB	So.	6-1	235	1L	Montgomery
Warren Foust	QB	So.	6-3	205	1L	Midwest City, Okla.	Robert Southard	FB	So.	5-10	200	Sq	Hartselle
Will Friend	OG	Jr.	6-2	265	2L	Philadelphia, Miss.	Sage Spree	OT	So.	6-4	275	1L	Boligee
Chad Goss	FI	Jr.	5-11	175	1L	Warner Robbins, Ga.	Steve Stanley	S	So.	6-3	193	1L	Leighton
Reggie Grimes	DE	Fr.	6-4	278	RS	Nashville, Tenn.	Ralph Staten	OLB	Sr.	6-3	200	3L	Semmes
Calvin Hall	SE	So.	6-4	190	1L	Gallatin, Tenn.	Brian Steger	HB	Sr.	6-3	210	3L	New Market
Patrick Hape	TE	Sr.	6-4	239	3L	Killen	Hayden Stockton	P	Sr.	6-0	193	1L	Double Springs
Steve Harris	OLB	So.	6-0	226	1L	Town Creek	Josh Swords	OG	So.	6-3	275	Sq	Brentwood, Tenn.
Matt Harrison	DT-C	So.	6-5	260	Sq	Dadeville	John Tanks	OLB	Sr.	6-4	226	3L	Butler
Matt Herndon	MLB	Fr.	6-0	205	RS	Winter Park, Fla.	Matt Teague	FB	So.	6-0	215	Sq	Montgomery
Cole Higgison	DE	Fr.	6-5	250	RS	Bethesda, Md.	Deshea Townsend	CB	Jr.	5-10	170	2L	Batesville, Miss.
Tracy High	CB	Sr.	5-9	175	3L	Pontotoc, Miss.	Lance Tucker	QB	Jr.	6-0	175	2L	Fayette
Thomas Hill	CB	Fr.	5-10	175	Sq	Meridian, Miss.	Michael Vaughn	FI	So.	6-1	185	1L	Clarksdale, Miss.
Jack Hines	SE	So.	6-1	170	Sq	Brewton	Clint Waggoner	TE-DE	Fr.	6-6	250	Sq	Fairburn, Ga.
Joel Holliday	OT	Jr.	6-3	292	2L	Six Mile, S.C.	Granison Wagstaff	MLB	So.	6-2	225	1L	Enterprise
Chris Hood	DE	So.	6-3	267	1L	Town Creek	Edgar Walker	DE	Jr.	6-4	240	1L	Dothan
Scott Howard	OLB	So.	5-10	200	Sq	Hartselle	Robert Warnock	FI	So.	6-0	185	Sq	Birmingham
Jarrold Hulan	QB	Jr.	6-2	180	Sq	Crossfield	Chris Warren	DT	Sr.	6-3	240	Sq	Birmingham
Eddie Hunter	OLB	So.	6-2	215	1L	Mobile	Jarrold Warren	SS	Fr.	5-11	195	RS	Birmingham
Kevin Jackson	SS	Sr.	6-2	200	1L	Dothan	William Watts	PK	Sr.	6-1	180	3L	Pleasant Grove
Chris Jordan	OT	Jr.	6-4	273	1L	Jackson	Marcell West	FI	Sr.	5-11	177	3L	Niceville, Fla.
Eric Kerley	DT	Jr.	6-1	290	2L	Birmingham	Laron White	OG	Sr.	6-2	272	3L	Courtland
Ramus King	HB	So.	6-0	190	Sq	Montgomery	Jeffrey Whitten	FB	Sr.	6-1	223	Sq	Mobile
Freddie Kitchens	QB	Jr.	6-2	230	2L	Attalla	Wilson Whittington	QB	Fr.	6-3	200	Sq	Birmingham
Ben Krapf	C	So.	6-4	260	Sq	Newark, Del.	Darrell Williams	OT	Jr.	6-4	290	Tr	Brookwood
Josh Lane	OT	Jr.	6-2	260	Sq	Anniston	Owen Winston	CB	So.	6-0	175	1L	Montgomery
William Leland	FB	Sr.	5-11	222	Sq	Birmingham	Tucker Yance	CB	Fr.	5-10	180	RS	Mobile



Ozell Powell:

## His Goal Is To Be Lighter And Stronger

by Donald F. Staffo

Senior plans to be leader as well as starter for Tide

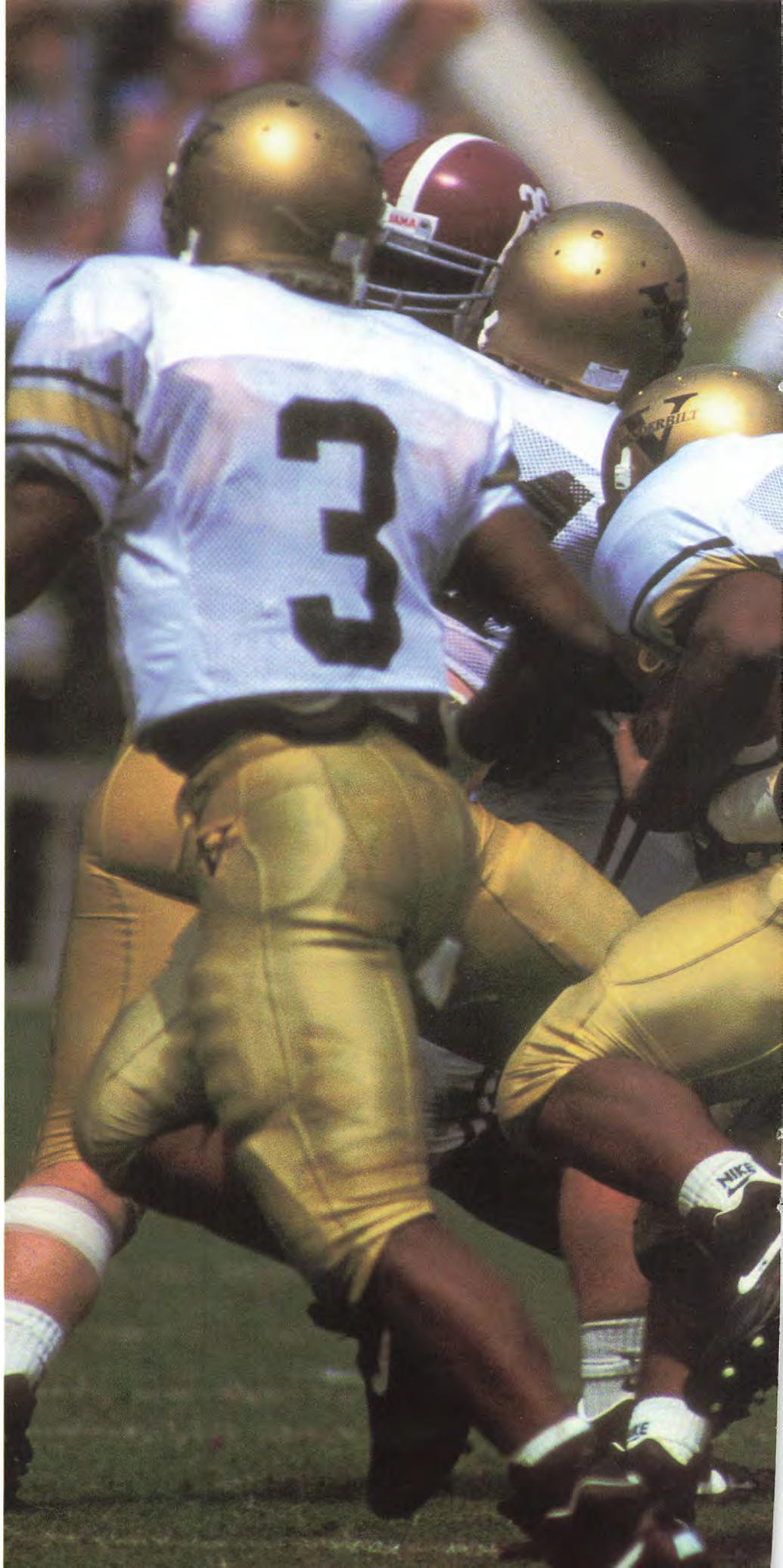
**B**igger is not necessarily better, at least not for Alabama defensive tackle Ozell Powell. Powell, an upcoming senior, is one of the Super-Huge members of the Alabama football team. At 6-5 and 305 he may be the biggest, but the other 300-pounders—Eric Kerley, Bryan Thornton and Joel Holliday among them—are always within a meal or so of the top spot.

Unfortunately, these are not members of a sumo wrestling team, and in football there's more to being good than being big even in an era of the 300-pound lineman being commonplace. And Powell readily acknowledges that excess baggage he has carried around since he arrived at The Capstone in 1992 has hindered his progress. After being redshirted that first year, he started five games as a freshman in 1993 and five as a sophomore in 1994. Last year he expected to be a fixture in the defensive line. However, while he played in all 11 games, he started only four and was credited with only 15 tackles and a forced fumble. Those are hardly the numbers of the impact player Powell hoped to be by his junior year.

"I am really disappointed in myself because I didn't do all the right things it took and that I needed to do to make myself better," Powell said. "I didn't control my weight, I didn't get stronger, and I

Senior defensive tackle Ozell Powell has been an effective player against the run, but needs to improve his performance in passing situations.

Barry Fikes Photo









wasn't in the kind of shape that I needed to be in. If I take care of my weight, I can solve some of these other problems."

When he didn't start last year, Powell played behind Shannon Brown. Powell got about a third of the snaps in the early season, but by the end of the year he was getting about an equal amount of playing time with Brown. Heading into his senior season, Powell said he plans to be a full-fledged starter.

"I want to make up for the past," Powell said. "I want to get recognition from the pro scouts. I want to show them that I can play so that I have a better chance of getting to the next level. If I can have a good year and get people to notice me, some of the other things will come."

**W**ith Shannon Brown, Matt Parker, Kendrick Burton, Elverett Brown and Vann Bodden having all graduated off the defensive line, Powell will open spring training as the number one man at left defensive tackle. And he has shown in off-season work that he is taking his opportunity seriously.

Although he is still 25 pounds above what Assistant Coach Mike Dubose believes is Powell's ideal playing weight, Dubose said, "I'm not as concerned with body weight as I am with percentage of body fat, and that's not just for Ozie, but for all the players. I want Ozie to be as big and strong as possible, but it's got to be the right ratio of muscle to body fat."

To that end, Powell has put in hard hours in the off season. On Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays he has done heavy lifting and distance running. On Tuesdays and Thursdays he does lighter lifting and spring work. He also exercises on a Stairmaster machine for 20 to 30 minutes each morning. And, he added, "Sometimes when I have extra energy, I'll walk at night."

Powell isn't getting any extra energy in the Bryant Hall dining room. "They've got me on a diet plate," he said. "No cake or anything like that."

Dubose recognizes a distinct change in Powell's attitude. "Ozie hasn't missed a workout yet, and that's something he couldn't say the last three years," Dubose said. "He recognizes what he has not done and what he needs to do, and that's encouraging to me."



Ozell Powell reported prior to the start of the 1995 football season at 315 pounds. By mid-year he had dropped down to 285 and his playing time increased significantly. Although he is over 300 as spring training approaches, Powell intends to be at 280 when the 1996 season begins.

Barry Fikes Photo

"When Ozell first came here I thought he could be as good as (former Tide star) John Copeland, and I know that's saying a lot. And it's still not too late for Ozie to get to that level. If he keeps up his work ethic, I still think he can be the kind of player that I expect him to be, that he ex-

pects to be and that a lot of others expect him to be."

To that end, Powell wants to get lighter, faster and stronger. He currently bench presses 315 pounds and squats 400 while running the 40-yard dash in 5.2 seconds. "I know I've got to get a lot stronger for



my size," Powell said. "Although my speed and quickness are adequate, that will improve if I lose weight."

Powell has made some progress. When he reported last fall he tipped the scales at 315 pounds. It's significant that his playing time didn't increase until his poundage had decreased. By mid-season he had trimmed down to 285. "That's when I was playing my best," Powell said. He has since let his weight balloon back over the 300-pound mark, but intends to be at 280 when the 1996 season begins.

**P**owell came to Alabama after earning first team all-state honors at Greenville High School, where he turned in an average a sack a game his junior and senior years under Coach Gene Allen. Powell was also a tight end on offense with 10 receptions for 120 yards as a junior, but his days of offense ended when he arrived at Alabama. In addition to being a four-year starter in football, Powell averaged 10 points per game and was the leading rebounder on the basket-

ball team and was 5A state champion in the shot put.

Powell picked Alabama after considering Auburn, Florida, Tennessee and Southern Mississippi. "I grew up watching Alabama on television," Powell said. "It was one of my dreams to play for Alabama." Although Auburn offered a scholarship, Powell said he would have played for the Tigers only if Alabama had not recruited him.

(However, that didn't stop Powell's cousin, Ezell, a 6-6, 275-pound defensive lineman at Georgiana, from signing with Auburn in February. "I talked to him a couple of times about coming to Alabama," Ozell said. "I don't know why he went to Auburn, but I'll talk to him later and find out. There's nothing I can do about it now except wish him good luck and tell him not to be mad after we beat them. Knowing what I know about Coach Dubose, I think it could have made him a better player if he had come to Alabama.")

Ozell was redshirted in Alabama's 1992

national championship season. As a red-shirt freshman in 1993 he played in every game and was a starter in five of them, including the Southeastern Conference Championship Game against Florida. He missed two games with injuries as a sophomore, but still had plenty of playing time and a handful of starts.

As he approaches spring training and preparation for the 1996 season, Powell is determined to be a starter and a leader for the Tide. "I've got to be more of a leader this year, a positive role model for the younger guys," Powell said. "I think Coach Dubose is going to look for the four seniors on the defensive line—me, Darrell Blackburn, Kelvin Moore and Anthony Dowdell—to be the leaders."

Powell believes that one of his strengths is his ability to quickly recognize offensive schemes and react to them. He said he also thinks he does a good job against the run. However, he said he knows he's got to improve his play in passing situations. And, most of all, he knows he's got to lose some weight.

# Roll Tide

## FOUR GREAT ACTION MOMENTS

featuring the art of  
Daniel A. Moore

- "The Goal Line Stand" - against Penn State in the 1979 Sugar Bowl.
- "The Sack" - Bennett's famous sack in the 1986 victory over Notre Dame.
- "The Kick" - Van Tiffin's 1985 game winning field goal against Auburn.
- "The Tradition Continues" - commemorating the Sugar Bowl of 1992 and the Tide's National Championship under Coach of the Year, Gene Stallings.

**FREE**  
with every  
**Order**

- FREE checkbook cover, check register, & deposit slips.
- FREE name & address labels.

LINDA K. FRANKLIN  
NEAL B. FRANKLIN  
1234 MAIN STREET  
ANYTOWN, USA 12345

**ROLL  
TIDE!**

**SPECIAL OFFER!**  
Buy your Crimson Tide® checks\*, together with  
pen and leather checkbook cover for just  
**\$29.95**

\*200 single checks or  
150 duplicate checks



### How To Order:

1. **Enclose order form and voided check** from existing check supply, noting any changes.
2. **Include deposit slip** from existing check supply.
3. **Enclose your payment check.**
4. Fill out the order form and mail with items 1, 2 & 3 to:  
Designer Checks • P.O. Box 13386 • Birmingham, AL 35202



**Call Today! 1-800-239-9222**

E04TGGB6

### ORDER FORM

Start my checks with number \_\_\_\_\_

(if different from voided check)

☐ My day time phone# \_\_\_\_\_

### SINGLE CHECKS

- ☐ 1 Box (200) \$9.95
- ☐ 2 Boxes (400) \$18.95

### DUPLICATE CHECKS

- ☐ 1 Box (150) \$11.95
- ☐ 2 Boxes (300) \$22.95

☐ American Express

☐ MasterCard

☐ Visa

Expiration Date: Mo \_\_\_\_\_ Yr \_\_\_\_\_

Card# \_\_\_\_\_

Name on Credit Card \_\_\_\_\_

Cardholder Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Please check that your credit card number has been filled completely.

Amount for checks	\$
Leather Checkbook Cover \$14.95	\$
Roll Tide Pen \$9.95	\$
Special Roll Tide Offer \$29.95	\$
In-plant rush (optional) \$2.50	\$
Script type (optional) add \$2	\$
Name & Address Labels	\$ <b>FREE</b>
Shipping and handling (\$1.00 per box)	\$
Alabama residents add 8% sales tax	\$
<b>TOTAL AMOUNT</b>	\$

Designer  
CHECKS

P.O. Box 13386 • Birmingham, AL 35202





# Juniors Provide Strength On Links

by Donna Fromme

Men and women teams both have number of top underclassmen

Leaders come in all sizes, and, fortunately, for both Alabama head golf coaches, in all ages. Both the Crimson Tide men's and women's golf teams are laden with underclassmen, a situation both teams hope to use to their advantage. Juniors predominate on both squads.

For Women's Coach Betty Palmer, the power is found in a blonde Swede, junior Johanna Swärd, her top performer from 1995. "Johanna has emerged as a leader on the golf course," Palmer said. "Johanna played well and finished among the top 20 in three tournaments during the fall, and she's ranked in the top 100 in the national rankings. I don't see anything but her moving in the same direction this spring. She's worked very hard to get where she is. She knows she has to put together the lowest scores possible to climb in the rankings and to put our team among the top five finishers at every tournament. She's been very consistent for us so far, so I don't see her letting up now."

The women's team kept the same mix of five all fall and heads into the spring with its hopes resting on that same quintet which improved with every event.

"We saw some good performances from all five players," Palmer said. "And we have a sixth, (soph) Kelly Milligan, who has been on the edge of qualifying all year. I hope to see her playing this spring. It's a good situation to be in because they all appear to be focused on playing well and you're seeing that every week."

"Julie Pelchar (a sophomore) has matured a great deal on the course. She's made great strides in being able to produce different shots and making herself a more multi-dimensional player. Rachel Short is a freshman who's been a wonderful addition to our program. She's a well-rounded athlete who has the heart and desire to go out



The success of the Alabama golf teams in 1996 will depend in part on Julie Pelchar for the women and Chip Deason for the men.

Barry Fikes Photo

there and play very competitive golf. Theres Svedin (freshman) had a hole-in-one in the middle of tournament play this

fall, so she's out there working hard with some of our better rounds, and Linda Sorensen (freshman) is showing promise.

'BAMA, Inside The Crimson Tide/MARCH '96



This team knows that they have to put the lowest scores possible up and finish in the top five as a team to get to the regional (NCAA Regional Tournament). That's the challenge for them this year." In order to qualify for the regional tournament, which is at Auburn, Palmer believes the Tide must finish in the top five in every tournament this spring. "Once you get to the regional you have a clean slate," Palmer said. "You erase where you finished in the fall and spring. It only matters what you do for the next three days. Do well there and you make the NCAA field. It's an attainable goal, but each of our players has to meet the challenge."

The Alabama women opened play in the fall with a fourth place finish at Auburn, then followed with "bottom-middle" of the pack finishes in three other fall events. Spring season opens March 1-3 in the Lady Gator at Gainesville, Florida.

After the four fall events Sward shaved two strokes from her 1995 scores, down to 77.3. Pelchar has put in the second best numbers at 79.8, followed by Svedin at 79.9, Short 81.3 and Sorensen 81.7.

**D**ick Spybey compares his Tide men's team fall season to a roller coaster ride as Alabama's play dipped from peaks to valleys and rose again. It opened with a top six finish, tumbled to the bottom at midpoint, then moved back up again at the end. It was a fall where at least three of his golfers emerged as steady forces on the course. But it was the elusive fourth counting score that sent the Tide off track more than once.

"I think the key to success this spring is that our top three players, Chip Deason, Patrick Vadden and Allan MacDonald, need to go ahead and step up one more level," Spybey said. "All three at times in the fall showed great promise at an all-conference and/or an All-America level. Now we've got to get them all to be on the same page every week."

"If those guys will step up a level and we provide a more consistent level from our four and five people, then we have a chance to be real good."

Being "real good" is an especially compelling goal as Alabama heads into the thick of its schedule, the spring season. (In collegiate golf, the season is a year long. It begins in the fall, breaks for the play-unfriendly months of December and January, then picks up again in mid-February. All

events count equally when post-season selections are made.)

The Tide will have hosted three tournaments by season's end: the first in Birmingham at Shoal Creek, where Bama was host of the Jerry Pate National Collegiate in October; March 22-24 at Montgomery's Lagoon Park for the Blue-Gray Southeastern Invitational; and May 10-12 when the Crimson Tide will host the Southeastern Conference Championships at Old Overton in Birmingham.

And Spybey's three aces appear ready for the challenge. Deason, a junior, has picked up where he left off last season and is bettering that. In 1995 he capped his sophomore year with a fourth place finish at the SEC Championships. He finished in the top 11 in two of Alabama's four fall events, producing finishes and scores that propelled him into the top 100 national rankings individually. His fellow junior, Vadden, joins him in those ranks as he began the spring ranked number 37 in the nation. Vadden's year includes a seventh place finish at the Red River Classic in Dallas last fall. And MacDonald jumped right into the picture in Division I competition after transferring from junior college. He had three top 22 finishes in the Tide's five fall tournaments.

"As I recruited last year I tried to find someone who could help this group come together, to be the glue to this puzzle," Spybey said. "I really think I found that in Allan. He's an extremely disciplined player and a very good leader as well as being a top

junior college performer when he came in."

Bama opened the spring season in February at Florida's Gator Invitational with all three finishing in the top 20, Deason 15th, MacDonald 17th and Vadden 20th. Each produced one excellent round, Deason with a 65 midway through the tournament, Vadden finishing with a 66, and MacDonald closing with a 68. As a team, Alabama was seventh of 15 in a strong field.

"I hope this will create a lot of confidence in our group," Spybey said.

Spybey has redshirted Tuscaloosa native Mayson Petty this year. Petty, a United States Amateur participant last summer, had been among the Tide's playing five for the previous three seasons. But going into his senior year, Petty, the 1994 SEC Long Drive Champion, was feeling burnout and requested the redshirt.

Mobile's Brian Wright, the 1992 and 1994 Alabama High School champion, has been playing the most at the four spot for the Tide. He was inserted into Alabama's lineup as a freshman last year and helped Alabama to a fourth place SEC finish.

Also trying for the four and five spots are senior Dan Mutert; redshirt freshman John Stahlschmidt, who had his best collegiate round at the Gator Invitational when he had a 71 in the final round; redshirt freshman Robert Ireland; and junior transfer Matt Clark. Freshman Chip Zahn, the Louisiana High School champion, was held out of fall play and is expected to be redshirted.

The official "Bama" shirt offered in white Oxford cloth, blue chambray or Tartan plaid.

Sizes M, L, XL

55.<sup>00</sup> solids

60.<sup>00</sup> plaid

Call toll free



*the Locker Room*

1-800-749-0992

1218 University Boulevard  
Tuscaloosa, Alabama 35401



# There's A Building Process Going On

by Donna Fromme

Women's team has to replenish lost stars from strong team, while men are still climbing

**B**oth Alabama tennis coaches, Jim Tressler for the women and Joey Rivé for the men, are becoming first time fathers this year. Tressler's son was born in January. Rivé's baby is due in March.

That is a stage in their personal lives that is mirrored to a degree in their professional lives. Both of their teams are also experiencing a re-birthing. Tressler has replenished from a mass exodus of his successful 1995 squad. Rivé is breathing life into a program that skidded upon the depths of

frustration last season.

And as they sail into the spring season, both coaches have already emerged as worthy figureheads. Rivé has produced a Southeastern Conference champion. Tressler's charges as well have brought home tournament hardware and debuted for the season at number 21 in the nation.

For Tressler and the Alabama women, the challenge is to not only maintain the 1995 success but to better it. The women rocketed to a program best number 10 national ranking last season, broke three players

into the national individual rankings—two of those in the top 30—and also to put together a nationally ranked doubles duo.

But the nest was near-empty when the 1994-95 season ended. Three of Tressler's top six graduated. A fourth, the team's most valuable player, returned to her home country, Holland, to pursue a pharmacy degree and career.

"Last year we had four of our top six in their final year," Tressler said. "We put a lot of pressure on ourselves because we knew it was those players' last go-round. This



Among the top performers for Alabama's tennis teams this spring will be (left to right) Karim Zaher, Allison Eager, Alin Taranga and Cantillon Brasington.

Barry Fikes Photo



year we want to win, and we want to do well, but it's a young team. People aren't going to be expecting as much out of us. We'll have a chance to grow without there being a lot of pressure on us."

Tressler's youth movement maintained during its fall 1995 season where players compete in individual tournament play to polish their games. Their work kept them at home in the rankings as Alabama begins its 1996 spring dual season with a number 21 national rating. It is an all-important jump start to the season as ranking means everything come May when selections are made for the field of 20 teams at the NCAA Championships. And one of its youngest, freshman Baili Camino, broke into the rankings when she debuted at number 91 in January after a rookie-season fall that included dusting off two nationally ranked players.

"I don't know that we were a Top 25 team at the beginning of the fall, but I think we were by the end," said Tressler.

It is a freshman, Camino, who is having Alabama's best initial success, though her teammates are also succeeding. Playing in her first region championships in November, the Florida native advanced to the tournament's Round of 16 in singles. At the Southeastern Conference's fall gathering in October, Camino advanced to the semifinals. It is that play that has netted her the spot at the top of the lineup, the number one singles position.

"Baili worked extremely hard in the fall and had some very good wins," Tressler said. "She also had some very good matches against some of the nation's best that she didn't quite pull out. Even when she didn't win, she was competitive."

Fellow freshman Jill Breslin, who opened her Alabama career with an 8-1 start, won two tournament championships in the flights in which she competed at Alabama's Roberta Alison Southern Intercollegiate and at the Clearwater Collegiate Fall Tennis Classic. In Alabama's opening matches this spring, Breslin has anchored the number three singles position.

But not to be outdone is Alabama's junior class which includes Allison Eager and Cantillon Brasington. After a sophomore season that included battling her way to her first collegiate win against a ranked opponent, Brasington spent her summer competing and polishing her game for her third season with the Tide. The Florida native won the Dutch Open in Emmelord,

Holland. Her work pulled her up from the middle of Alabama's lineup last year to number two on the ladder for Alabama's opening spring matches.

Eager, too, has been willing and able to make her mark, particularly in doubles with Brasington as her partner. The two are nationally competitive in their pairing at number one doubles. They advanced to the Round of 16 at regionals.

The squad, eight in number, also includes newcomer Whitney Dill who joined the team in January and immediately worked her way into the early season dual lineup at either number four or number five. The top six in the early spring has included freshman Amanda Ballinger, a 1992 Prince All-America; sophomore Erin Braeuning; and, a newcomer though she is a senior, first year player Ellen Mayer.

For Joey Rivé, the advance of the 1996 dual season has been an awakening. His first season as head coach in 1995 was his worst nightmare: Alabama won only one dual match all season, ironically by a 7-0 margin, in its third match of the season. One mere point per match scored by Alabama would have produced four more wins. It was a year of frustration and even shock for Rivé, a man who was very successful in his own collegiate and professional playing career.

But it was also a year to learn, and learn the Tide players did.

"It was hard," said Tide senior Marco Mazzotta, its anchor at number one singles for the past two seasons. "But we also learned a lot from it. We learned that we don't like that feeling anymore."

The slate was wiped clean after Alabama laid racquets to rest after the SEC Championships last April. But during the off-season, Rivé and his charges did anything but rest and wallow in their disappointment. Rivé hit the floor running, signing recruits that fit his style as a coach, players who could come on the scene and immediately shake things up. And even the older players, like Mazzotta, became rejuvenated.

"There's a new enthusiasm on the team," Mazzotta said of the mix that puts six veterans with six newcomers. "Everybody wants to do well. Everybody's pumped up. For the guys who've been on the team a while, I think it's helped us a lot to reconsider what we want to do. I think we have a great chance of being competitive this

year. We've already seen that happening within the team. Everybody wants to play the highest they can (on the ladder), so everybody's knocking down everybody else out at practice everyday. It's making practice very hard, very competitive, which is a very good thing. That's what we lacked last year."

Alabama has already made up for one lack, the lack of tournament hardware it felt last season. In a program that has produced six All-America doubles duos, it is the doubles play that is the first to emerge to see daylight, thanks largely to Alabama's young upstarts.

In the fall, junior college transfer Rashid Hassan teamed with freshman Alin Taranga to win their championship flight at the Southern Collegiates in Athens, Georgia, the site of the 1996 NCAA Championships where the pair hope to find themselves, along with their teammates, come May.

Just before Christmas, Hassan, who was ranked as high as number 13 in the world in singles during his junior career, injured his knee playing basketball at the University's Recreation Center with some of his teammates. The injury has limited his play in the early going and held him out of the SEC Coaches Championships in January. But where one door might have closed, a window was opened.

Rivé teamed Taranga, a top 25-ranked South African, with his fall find, Karim Zaher who, in the late summer, dropped by Rivé's office one day and told the coach he'd like to try to play. Try he did as the duo swung their way to an SEC doubles title.

The revved-up Tide still has the season to go, but its initial rumblings have shown nothing but hope that the nightmare that was 1995 is long gone. At mid-February, the Tide was 3-1, tripling its winnings already from 1995.

Hassan's knee is now better, and his health and his play have placed him at number two in Alabama's lineup. At the middle is sophomore Chris Lopez and freshman Ariel Rivero, and switching out at numbers five and six are Taranga, who opened at 4-0 in dual play (including five sets where he didn't allow his opponent to win a single game), and Zaher.

Rivé's reserve force includes German freshman Sven Goth, seniors Marc Hayden, Mark Johnson and Kip Layman, sophomore Robert Sproul, and January joiner Louis Van Huyssteen, a freshman.



# Leading Tide To Baseball's Next Level

by John Barnes

Tide's senior catcher wants to help Alabama return to the College World Series

**L**eadership is an increasingly rare quality in today's athlete. Bama catcher Dax Norris not only accepts the role as team leader, he relishes it.

In his second season as the Tide's starter behind the plate, Norris is the mythical captain of Jim Wells' squad and personifies the team's never-say-die attitude.

"I've always been the type of player that takes the initiative to lead a team," said Norris. "I'm a very upbeat person and I try to spread that attitude around to my teammates."

Alabama's 1995 squad was one of not only talent, but enthusiasm. Team members who suffered through the dark years in 1993 and 1994 realized that baseball could indeed be fun again. "From what I could tell, after talking to guys like Brett Taft, guys that were here during that time, they just weren't having any fun," said Norris. "There's no doubt that there was talent during that time, but I think the game became a chore for those guys and they just kind of went through the motions. When Coach Wells got here, I saw a spark in some of the same guys who were miserable the year before."

Behind Norris' leadership, Bama embarked on one of the most dramatic turn-arounds in school history, reeling off 42 wins and ultimately, a championship at the SEC's Western Division Tournament.

"Last year, we found out early that we could play with anybody," said Norris. "When Chris (Moller) hit the home run in the ninth to complete the sweep of Florida, I think we all realized that we were legit. From then on, we never looked back and played with a tremendous amount of confidence. The score never really mattered because we always believed we would win in the end."

For the year, Norris established himself as the Tide's ironman, starting 63 of the Tide's 65 games. He finished second among SEC catchers with a .993 fielding percentage, committing only three errors in 402 total chances.

At the plate, Norris was solid, if not spec-



Dax Norris

tacular. Hitting .283 while driving in 34 runs, Dax set a single-season record at Alabama with 254 at-bats. He tied for the team lead with 18 doubles and finished second in runs scored with 45.

"I think I really came into my own last year," said Norris. "It was a learning experience for me because early in the year, Coach Wells and I couldn't seem to get on the same page as far as calling pitches. The system was totally different than the one I was used to in junior college. As the season went on, though, I started to get a feel for what he was calling and it helped me defensively and as a hitter because I was able to concentrate on getting my pitch rather than worrying about what calls I might miss the next inning."

**N**orris' development as a catcher can be traced back to his days in little league. "I've never wanted to play any other position," he said. "When I was in tee-ball, I cried for three days when the coach moved me from catcher to second base. From then on, I've worn the mask."

A native of LaGrange, Georgia, Norris had

intentions of playing college baseball at Auburn. One credit short of entrance requirements, Norris enrolled at Central Alabama Community College in Alexander City. Over the next two years, Dax quietly made a name for himself, batting .333 with 76 runs batted in while striking out only 14 times in 360 plate appearances. For his efforts, he was named the team's most valuable player and was an honorable mention NJCCA All-America.

Although the Tide baseball program was in limbo at the time, Interim Coach Bobby Pierce recruited and signed Norris. A few weeks later, Jim Wells was on board and Norris had a chance to fulfill his dream of playing major college baseball.

At 5-10, Norris is short for a major college catcher, but Wells feels he makes up for it with heart and work ethic.

"Dax is the type of player every coach loves to have," said Wells. "He's a very hard worker and leads by word and by example. He's got a good sense of humor and always manages to keep the guys up. There are guys in the league who are bigger and have better arms, but Dax is the perfect mix for our team."

**A**s the Tide begins its second season under Wells, Norris looks to continue the solid play that landed him on the NCAA East Region All-Tournament Team. He's off to a good start, earning Most Valuable Player honors for his seven-for-14 hittings, two home run performance at the Olive Garden Classic in Kissimmee, Florida. Norris led a seven-run, 14-hit attack against fifth-ranked Georgia Tech in the team's successful season opener.

"I think we're off to a good start," said Norris. "We let that North Carolina game slip away from us. They came back and beat us the way we won so many games last year. If we had to lose one like that, I guess it's better than having it happen against Auburn or LSU late in the year. Hopefully, we learned some hard lessons from that loss. It really hurt."



Currently ranked among the nation's top teams in polls by *Baseball America*, *Collegiate Baseball* and *USA Today*, Norris feels his team has the necessary ingredients to make it to the next level.

Only one Alabama team, Barry Shollenberger's 1983 squad, has made it to the College World Series in Omaha, Nebraska.

Providing a few key elements fall into place, mostly regarding the Tide pitching staff, Norris believes his team has a legitimate shot at the promised land.

"I think we've got the right mix of veterans and talented new guys," said Norris. "Last year, we had the offense to make it to Omaha, but we just ran out of pitching. Everyone was tired and we just ran out of gas. It just shows that to make it to Omaha, you can't just have a good team, you have to have a great team. We were on the verge of being great last year, and I think we have an opportunity to reach that level this year."

After some initial misgivings, Norris feels that Jim Wells is the right man to lead Alabama baseball to the next level.

"You look at some of these programs, schools like LSU and Cal State-Fullerton, they're good every single year," said Norris. "These teams are structured for greatness. You look at the fact that each team can only offer 11.7 scholarships, so things are pretty even as far as talent goes. The difference is in the facilities and in the coaching. The teams that are great year in and year out, go in believing that they're good. They're never intimidated and believe they'll win no matter what. That's the difference between great programs and ones that are just competitive. I really believe that's the direction we're heading in."

**A**lthough Alabama returns a large part of its offense from last year, questions continue to surface regarding the Tide pitching staff. Norris views the development of Tide pitchers as one of his chief responsibilities.

Bama returns three of its four SEC starters from last year. However, off-season arm problems to John Collins and Chris Eilers, coupled with the slow development of Joel Colgrove, could spell trouble for the Tide. Even reliable Tim Young, Bama's lefty closer from a year ago, has struggled at times.

"There's no doubt we're going to have to get better on that end of things," said Norris. "We do have the potential of scoring a lot of runs, but you have to have good pitching to contend for championships. Last year, we never really had one guy who dom-



Dax Norris is more than just a man to catch the baseball and throw it back to the pitcher after a ball or strike. He believes that he has a role to play in helping his Crimson Tide pitching staff develop.

University of Alabama Photo by Kent Gidley

inated, but we got great outings from guys when we really needed it. I would like to think that the way I call a game and play defense will help to give guys like Chris and Joel some confidence."

Few would argue that the success enjoyed by Alabama a year ago has raised expectations for Bama's 1996 squad. Last season few, if any, expected the team to finish much better than .500. The word "Omaha" is being thrown around quite a bit, both in the

stands and in the dugout. Expectations create pressure, but Norris feels his team is up to the task.

"The really good teams, their goal every year is to make it to the CWS," he said. "Yeah, we feel some pressure, but it's pressure we put on ourselves. We were one game away from Omaha last year and we all know how it felt to fall short. If we can just remember what got us to where we are now, we'll be all right."



# BAMA SCORECARD

## Looking Ahead

Following a long tradition, 'BAMA presents the top upcoming senior football prospects in Alabama, for those who can't wait to start following the football recruiting wars. Alabama high school players are traditionally among the nation's best. With Alabama being strapped over the past two years, limited to 14 signees in 1995 and 12 this year, a number of schools have come into the state to nab top players.

The Alabama border should be more impervious in 1997 as the Crimson Tide will be able to sign up to 25 prospects.

Look for these names to be on lists of the top football prospects beginning next fall:

Jeffrey Aaron, quarterback, Montgomery Jeff Davis; Herman Banks, wide receiver, Hartselle; Derrick Cloud, defensive end, Birmingham Jackson-Olin; Adam Cox, running back, Jasper Walker; Kelvin Dansby, linebacker, Birmingham Ensley; Tony Dixon, running back, Pickens County; Adam Gibbs, running back, Birmingham Hoover; Phillip Milton, linebacker, Birmingham Wenonah; Brock Nutter, quarterback, Birmingham Hoover; Larry Paul, defensive end, Moody; Stanford Simmons, wide receiver, Clay County; Greg Smith, running back, Wetumpka; Jason Standridge, quarterback, Hewitt-Trussville; Rob Tate, defensive back, Birmingham Erwin; Fred Weary, lineman, Montgomery Lee; and Antoney Williams, running back, Tuscaloosa Central.

## Coaches Visit

One of the rites of spring (and late winter) is college football assistant coaching staffs visiting or hosting the staffs of other schools. Alabama is always a favorite stop for a number of coaching staffs. Obviously, the visits are made between schools which do not play one another. During the course of spring training the Alabama coaching staff will probably have coaches from about a dozen colleges coming in to look at films, watch practices, and share philosophies.

Last year the Penn State staff visited Tuscaloosa. This year Tide assistant coaches returned the visit. Offensive Coordinator and Quarterbacks Coach Woody McCorvey, Running Backs Coach Ivy Williams, Receivers Coach Dabo Swinney, Tackles Coach Danny Pearman and Guards and Centers Coach Jim Fuller went to Penn State.

Alabama's defensive staff—Coordinator and Line Coach Mike Dubose, Linebackers Coach Jeff Rouzie and Secondary Coach Curley Hallman—went to Nebraska in search of ideas.

The defensive staff was joined on the trip to Nebraska by Strength and Conditioning Coach LeBaron Caruthers.

## The 600 Club

When Alabama's men's basketball team defeated Auburn, 75-72, in Auburn on

February 14, it was Bama's 600th SEC victory. Only Kentucky, which moved over the 700-win plateau this season, has more conference basketball wins.

The Wildcats are firmly entrenched as the SEC's most successful basketball team. But not only is Alabama second to Kentucky in victories, Bama is also third in all-time winning percentage in the league, behind Kentucky and relative newcomer Arkansas. Bama is fourth in SEC championships with six, behind Kentucky's 37 and the seven by LSU and Tennessee.

It will be awhile before there is another member of the 600 Club in the SEC. Tennessee, LSU and Vanderbilt are the only other schools with 500 wins and all are well short of 600.

Alabama is the only SEC team that has played more than 1,000 conference games.

## A Pretty Good Neighborhood

For many of the first 82-plus years of Alabama basketball, complete statistics were not kept beyond scoring and rebounding. Items such as assists, steals and blocked shots were not tabulated until the 1960s and 1970s. Nevertheless, it is almost a certainty that no one ever did what Roy Rogers has done this year. And Roy has done it twice.

The triple-double is a fairly recent term, describing a basketball player who reaches double figures in three statistical categories. Alabama statisticians first broached the subject in late 1994 when Roy Rogers turned in 12 points, 13 rebounds and eight blocked shots in a losing effort against New Mexico State in the Pre-Season NIT.

This year, Roy got that elusive triple-double. And then to show it wasn't a fluke, he added a second one eight days later.

In a loss to Georgia in Athens, Rogers, a 6-10 senior from Linden, turned in 15 points, 12 rebounds and a phenomenal 14 blocked shots. A week later he scored a career-high 27 points and grabbed 10 rebounds while blocking 10 shots in a win over LSU.

The 14 blocked shots tied the NCAA record held by David Robinson and Shawn Bradley and broke the SEC record of 12 previously held by Shaquille O'Neal.

For his play, Rogers was named the ESPN National Player of the Week for his performance against Georgia and the SEC Player of the Week for his heroics against LSU and his 20-point, 5-rebound, 6-blocked shot effort in a road win over Auburn.

In his first year as a starter, Rogers is headed for All-SEC recognition and an almost-certain opportunity to play in the NBA.

## Rocket Eight

The last SEC basketball team to go undefeated in league play was the 1956 Alabama team, which gained the nickname "The Rocket Eight." Coach Johnny Dee's final Alabama team went 14-0 in SEC play that year en route to a 21-3 record.

Coach Dee and the members of his team were reunited in Tuscaloosa the weekend of February 17. Members of the "Rocket Eight" were Jerry Harper, George Linn, Dennis O'Shea, Leon Marlaire, Dick Gunter, Billy Crews and Jim Bratton. Other members of the team, some of whom went on to star in subsequent seasons, who joined in the festivities were Jim Bogan, Scott Logan, Bill Sexton, Harold Goldstein, Dale Shuman, Jack Kubiszyn (who organized the event), Dick Bratton, Jim Fulmer, Jim Lewis, Jim Touvelle, Fred Frickey, Tom Crosby and Dave Putnam.

It was somehow appropriate that on the day the "Rocket Eight" was honored, current Alabama Head Coach David Hobbs team, depleted by injuries, defeated LSU playing only seven scholarship players and one walk-on.

## Number Two Pick

The Alabama baseball team was predicted to finish second in the SEC Western Division in a poll of SEC coaches. LSU, which is one of the favorites to win the national championship, received 10 of the 12 first place votes to win the SEC West with Bama picking up the other two. Mississippi State was picked third, Auburn fourth, Arkansas fifth and Ole Miss sixth.

In the Eastern Division, Tennessee was the unanimous choice to win the division. LSU was a 10-2 choice to defeat Tennessee for the SEC title.

Hoover Metropolitan Stadium, just outside of Birmingham, is the site of the 1996 SEC Baseball Tournament, May 15-19. The tournament format will consist of an eight-team field that includes the top three teams from each division plus two at-large bids based on conference winning percentage. The bottom four seeds will play single elimination games on the opening day of the tournament with the winners joining the top two teams from each division in a six-team double elimination bracket.

Tournament games count in the SEC standings and towards the determination of the SEC Champion, SEC Division Champions and the league's automatic NCAA bid recipient.

## Attendance Record

When Alabama opened its home baseball season this year with three games against Centenary, it is likely no one expected Bama to set a new weekend baseball attendance record. However, 5,077 went through the turnstiles at Sewell-Thomas Field to watch Bama take three wins from Centenary. The largest crowd was the 2,295 who watched on Saturday, February 17. The old record for a three-game series was 3,571, set last year against Arkansas.

The attendance record is almost certain to fall this year. The stadium currently seats 2,700, but will go to 4,700 when permanent



bleachers are added along the right field foul line later this spring. (The visiting team bullpen will be moved onto the field in foul territory when the new seats are added.) Bama is boosting the size of the stadium in hopes of landing an NCAA Regional Tournament.

#### Torchbearers

As part of the 1996 Olympics promotion, former Olympians are taking part in this summer's Olympic Torch Relay. Among those who will participate are one current Alabama coach and one former Tide coach.

Bama Volleyball Coach Dorothy Franco-Reed, a member of the 1984 United States handball team, and former Tide Diving Coach Bob Webster, a two-time gold medal winner in platform diving (1960 and 1964), were among nine Alabamians selected for the honor.

Franco-Reed will run her leg of the relay on June 17 in West Haven, Connecticut, five miles from her hometown of Milford. Franco-Reed played both volleyball and basketball at Alabama in the late 1970s, then took up the sport of team handball, in which she participated in the Olympics, after graduation from The University.

Webster will run his leg in the Birmingham area. Webster, who is now in private business in Tuscaloosa, was also selected as one of 100 Centennial Olympians, primarily former multiple Gold Medal winners for the United States. He will be a guest of the United States Olympic Committee for a special dinner in Atlanta and recognized at the opening ceremonies and attend various Olympics events.

#### SEC Champions

It was not a huge upset when Dana Bleich won the 10-meter (platform diving) championship at this year's SEC swimming and diving championships in Knoxville. A year earlier as a sophomore, Bleich had finished third behind two seniors.

However, even Bleich was surprised when her point total of 594.05 was announced. That surpassed the SEC record of 588.8 and the Alabama school record held by former SEC champion Jennifer Mahaney. She also finished fifth in three-meter diving. Bleich, a two-time Academic All-SEC performer, was 11th in the NCAA Championships last year.

Alabama's other individual championship was turned in by freshman Rania Elwani, who took the 100-yard freestyle championship. Elwani set a school and pool record with her :49.61-second clocking in the event. She also had second place finishes in the 50-yard and 200-yard freestyle events and finished as the second leading individual performer in the women's meet.

Both Bleich and Elwani were named first team All-SEC by virtue of their individual championships.

The Bama women finished fourth in the SEC Championships, while the Tide men finished sixth.

#### In The Honor Pool

Alabama placed 18 swimmers and divers on the SEC's Academic Honor roll. To be eligible

for the award, a student-athlete had to have a 3.0 grade point average for the past year or for his or her career and be at least a sophomore. Bama placed 12 women and six men on the Academic All-SEC squad.

Women honorees are Dana Bleich, Amy DeVasher, Jill DeVasher, Maria Elm, Monica Geohagan, Sarah Hickinbotham, Ann-Sofie Joensson, Laura Lloyd, April Mathis, Francine Mathot, Jenny Siegert and Karli Taylor. Men honorees are Mike Lamothe, Josh Luber, Adam McBride, Russ McDowell, Joaquin Ribeiro and Alex Voris.

#### Mr. President

Alabama Men's Golf Coach Dick Spybey has begun a two-year term as president of the national ruling body of collegiate golf, the Golf Coaches Association of America.

Spybey, who was national Coach of the Year in 1992, has served on the advisory board of the association for the past four years. He will have primary responsibility for administration of the organization of some 400 college golf coaches.

#### The Road To Number One

The reason Alabama's gymnastics team is ranked number one in the nation is the sum of its parts. Tide gymnasts held the top individual spots in three of the four gymnastics categories after five meets. Junior All-America Stephanie Woods was ranked number one in both uneven bars and balance beam. She had four scores of 9.9 or better on bars and three of 9.9 or better on beam. Senior All-America Kim Kelly ranked number one in floor exercise.

Beam is considered the most difficult of the gymnastics routines and five Tiders ranked among the nation's top ten in that event.

#### Packing Them In

Last year when Alabama hosted Georgia in gymnastics, the Tide set an all-time SEC record for attendance as 12,021 showed up to see Bama win with a school record 197.2 points. This year's Georgia match on March 1 is expected to attract at least 10,000. Through the first five meets of the year, Alabama had drawn the top three gymnastics crowds in the SEC this year, headed by the 9,260 for the Florida meet.

One gymnastics promotion this year was admitting fans with the price of admission the donation of a children's book. The drive netted over 1,600 books for Tuscaloosa's McDonald Hughes Community Center library.

#### Gymnast Lost

The Alabama gymnastics team lost Lisa Gianni for the season in only the second outing of the year. The freshman from Livingston, New Jersey, ruptured the achilles tendon in her left leg in Bama's victories over Penn State and Nebraska on January 20. Alabama's team doctor, Les Fowler, performed surgery within 12 hours of the injury. She will be on crutches through most of the rest of this season. Rehabilitation is expected to take about nine months. The dean's list student will return for the 1997 season.

#### Soccer Awards

Junior goalkeeper Amy Pseja was named the Tide soccer team's Most Valuable Player as she turned in a 1.55 goals against average, 108 saves and four shutouts in 1995. She played and started in 16 games, missing four starts due to a knee injury.

Sophomore striker Taylor Eubank earned Offensive MVP, scoring 22 points on nine goals and four assists. Eubank was named to the SEC All-Tournament Team and joined teammate Pseja as a second team All-SEC selection.

Junior sweeper Nikki Kubiszyn was named Defensive MVP, as she overcame nagging injury to help guide a young Tide defense to its first division title. Kubiszyn also enjoyed membership on the SEC All-Tournament Team, and finished fourth on the team in minutes played with 1,477.

Sophomore midfielder Jill Davis garnered the Most Improved Player Award. Davis played in 12 games, starting three, and scored one goal.

Head Coach Don Staley's selection for Coaches' Award went to freshman midfielder Christine Miller, who started 18 of the 19 games she played in, and totaled eight points on three goals and two assists.

#### http:// Stuff

For those on line with the Internet who can send and receive e-mail, here is information on how to access the BAMA FAN listserv.

To subscribe, send an Internet e-mail letter to [LISTSERV@UA1VM.UA.EDU](mailto:LISTSERV@UA1VM.UA.EDU) and leaving the subject line blank, place in the body SUBSCRIBE BAMA FAN first name last name (Example: SUBSCRIBE BAMA FAN JOE SMITH). If there are any problems, e-mail Patrick Crispin, the listserv owner, at [PCRISPE1@UA1VM.UA.EDU](mailto:PCRISPE1@UA1VM.UA.EDU).

Also, 'BAMA will soon be available on the world wide web through SportsLine. To explore other aspects of the SportsLine service, point browser to <http://www.sportsline.com>.

#### Black Gauge

Jesse Jackson's Rainbow Coalition has made an effort to determine how blacks are represented in college athletics administration. The coalition polled colleges in various areas (graduation rates of black student-athletes, blacks in athletics administration and in overall university administration positions, etc.). The average "score" among Division I schools was 60.78. The ratings of SEC schools were:

Alabama 79, Auburn 51, Florida 73, Georgia 72, Kentucky 80, Ole Miss 78, Mississippi State 77, Tennessee 81, and Vanderbilt 69. Arkansas, LSU and South Carolina were listed as not participating.

#### Says It Ain't So

In our last issue we reported a story that has made the rounds for a couple of years in which a former Tide football teammate of Bill Oliver, reportedly tired of Oliver's complaints, suggested he leave so Alabama could get a coach who wanted to be at Alabama. Oliver, who left Bama to coach at Auburn, called us to say the story is not true.



# 1995-96 Alabama Winter Sports Results

## Men's Basketball

Date	Opponent	Time
UA		Opp.
93	Marathon Oil (Exh.)	74
89	Croatia (Exh.)	85
84	Winthrop	69
74	@ North Texas	72
90	Tennessee Tech	78
100	Mercer	73
80	Florida A&M	39
80	Tulane	79
	Cessna Classic at Wichita, Kansas	
49	St. Peters	59
64	Bucknell	72
80	Vanderbilt	71
77	@ LSU (SS)	99
72	Auburn	65
56	@ Mississippi State (CBS)	55
62	Tennessee	53
67	@ South Carolina	90
63	Arkansas (ESPN)	71
63	@ Ole Miss	70
68	Florida	65
68	@ Syracuse (CBS)	81
83	@ Southern Miss	69
55	@ Georgia (JP)	68
75	@ Auburn	72
76	LSU (JP)	73
65	@ Kentucky (ESPN)	84
65	Mississippi State (JP)	73
Feb. 28	@ Arkansas (JP)	7:00
March 2	Ole Miss	7:30
March 7-	SEC Tournament	
March 10	@ New Orleans	

Times are central

JP-Jefferson Pilot

SS-SportsSouth

## Men's Swimming & Diving

Date	Opponent	Time
UA		Opp.
118	Kentucky	120
136	LSU	107
Nov. 11	Florida	cancelled
Nov. 17-19	Nebraska Invitational @ Lincoln	
Dec. 1-3	Nike Cup @ Chapel Hill, N.C.	
80	North Carolina State	60
76	Florida State	61
124	NE Louisiana	77
90	@ Auburn	138
Feb. 7-10	SEC Championships @ Knoxville	6th
	Georgia Invitational @ Athens	
26	Tennessee	85
30	Georgia	82
March 3-8	US Swimming Olympic Trials @ Indianapolis	
March 14-	NCAA Zone Diving @ TBA	
March 16	@ TBA	
March 28-	NCAA Championships	
March 30	@ Austin, Texas	

## Women's Basketball

Date	Opponent	Time
UA		Opp.
94	Australia (Exh.)	36
84	Athletes In Action (Exh.)	80
	Sheraton Capstone Inn Classic	
87	Central Florida	58
79	Maine	43
95	East Tennessee State	64
	Central Fidelity Invitational @ Richmond, Va.	
85	@ Richmond	57
67	Connecticut	81
	Garden Plaza Classic @ Murfreesboro, Tenn.	
92	Jackson State	62
68	Middle Tennessee State	53
83	Georgia (SS)	89
94	Bethune-Cookman	35
	Howard Bank Classic @ Burlington, Ver.	
89	UNC-Greensboro	62
73	Vermont or San Diego	52
	Junkanoo Shootout @ Nassau, Bahamas	
71	Oklahoma	62
70	Western Kentucky	64
92	@ Arkansas	85 (OT)
55	@ Ole Miss (SS)	65
97	Mississippi State	64
74	@ Northwestern State	69
66	Kentucky	51
69	Auburn	67
69	@ Tennessee (SS)	81
105	Alabama State	42
86	LSU	60
58	@ Auburn	75
73	Florida	54
59	@ Vanderbilt (ESPN)	73
75	@ South Carolina (OT)	68
March 1-	SEC Tournament	
March 4	@ Chattanooga	

SS-SportsSouth

## Women's Swimming & Diving

Date	Opponent	Time
UA		Opp.
114	Kentucky	129
153	LSU	89
Nov. 11	Florida	cancelled
Nov. 17-19	Nebraska Invitational @ Lincoln	
Dec. 1-3	Nike Cup @ Chapel Hill, N.C.	
100	North Carolina State	40
102	Florida State	38
75	@ Auburn	65
81	Michigan @ Auburn	59
Feb. 7-10	SEC Championships @ Knoxville	4th
	Georgia Invitational @ Athens	
75	Tennessee	63
53	Georgia	86
March 3-8	US Swimming Olympic Trials @ Indianapolis	
March 14-	NCAA Zone Diving @ TBA	
March 16	@ TBA	
March 21-	NCAA Championships	
March 23	@ Ann Arbor, Michigan	

## Gymnastics

Date	Opponent	Time
UA		Opp.
194.45	@ Auburn	189.60
195.725	Penn State	191.7
195.725	Nebraska	189.45
196.725	Florida	193.675
196.125	@ Georgia	197.425
196.95	@ Kentucky	195.45
196.675	Massachusetts	191.4
196.5	@ LSU	193.275
March 1	Georgia	7:30
March 10	Corvette Cup @ Columbia, Mo.	
March 16	Auburn	7:30
March 29	SEC Championships @ Lexington	
April 13	NCAA Regionals @ Baton Rouge	
April 25-	NCAA Championships	
April 27	@ Tuscaloosa	

Times are central

## Men's Indoor Track

Date	Event	Finish
Jan. 20	Arkansas State Invitational @ Jonesboro, Ark.	First
Jan. 27	LSU Invitational @ Baton Rouge	
Feb. 3	SEC vs. ACC Challenge @ Gainesville	
Feb. 11	Butler Invitational @ Indianapolis	
Feb. 24-25	SEC Championships @ Lexington	Ninth
Feb. 29	Florida Fast Times @ Gainesville	
March 1-2	USATF Championships @ Atlanta	
March 8-9	NCAA Championships @ Indianapolis, Ind.	

## Women's Indoor Track

Date	Event	Finish
Jan. 20	Arkansas State Invitational @ Jonesboro, Ark.	Second (tie)
Jan. 27	LSU Invitational @ Baton Rouge	
Feb. 3	SEC vs. ACC Challenge @ Gainesville	
Feb. 11	Butler Invitational @ Indianapolis	
Feb. 24-25	SEC Championships @ Lexington	Tenth
Feb. 29	Florida Fast Times @ Gainesville	
March 1-2	USATF Championships @ Atlanta	
March 8-9	NCAA Championships @ Indianapolis, Ind.	



# 1996 Alabama Spring Sports Schedules

## Baseball

Date	Opponent	Time
UA		Opp.
Olive Garden Classic @ Kissimmee, Florida		
7	Georgia Tech (SS)	2
10	Wake Forest	7
6	North Carolina	7
5	Centenary	2
9	Centenary	2
6	Centenary	1
3	Middle Tennessee	4
8	@ Northeast Louisiana	2
7	@ Northeast Louisiana	1
3	@ Northeast Louisiana	5
Feb. 27	Radford	7:00
Feb. 28	Radford	2:00
March 1	UNC-Greensboro	6:00
March 2	UNC-Greensboro	4:00
March 3	UNC-Greensboro	2:00
March 5	@ Samford	2:00
March 8	@ Georgia	6:00
March 9	@ Georgia	1:00
March 10	@ Georgia	1:00
March 12	Murray State	7:00
March 13	Murray State	2:00
March 15	Florida	7:00
March 16	Florida	2:00
March 17	Florida	2:00
March 19	Eastern Kentucky	7:00
March 20	Eastern Kentucky	7:00
March 22	Tennessee	7:00
March 23	Tennessee	2:00
March 24	Tennessee	2:00
March 26	@ South Alabama	6:30
March 27	@ South Alabama	6:30
March 29	@ Vanderbilt	7:00
March 30	@ Vanderbilt	2:00
March 31	@ Vanderbilt	2:00
April 2	Auburn @ Montgomery	7:00
April 5	@ Kentucky	6:00
April 6	@ Kentucky (SS)	2:00
April 7	@ Kentucky	1:00
April 10	Alabama-Birmingham	7:00
April 12	Mississippi State	7:00
April 13	Mississippi State	4:00
April 14	Mississippi State	2:00
April 17	@ Alabama-Birmingham	6:05
April 19	Ole Miss	7:00
April 20	Ole Miss (SS)	2:00
April 21	Ole Miss	2:00
April 24	Samford	7:00
April 26	@ LSU	7:00
April 27	@ LSU	2:00
April 28	@ LSU	2:00
May 3	@ Arkansas	7:00
May 4	@ Arkansas	2:00
May 5	@ Arkansas	2:00
May 10	Auburn	7:00
May 11	Auburn @ Hoover	7:00
May 12	Auburn	2:00
SEC Baseball Tournament		
May 15-19	@ Hoover	
	NCAA Regionals	
May 23-26	TBA	
	College World Series	
May 31-	@ Omaha, Nebraska	
June 8		

Times are central

SS-SportsSouth

## Men's Tennis

Date	Opponent	Time
UA		Opp.
7	Troy State	0
7	Georgia State	0
SEC vs. Big Ten Challenge @ Chicago		
3	Northwestern	4
6	Michigan State	1
4	Miami	1
4	Samford	3
6	Southern Miss	1
March 5	South Carolina	1:00
March 9	@ LSU	2:00
March 12	Kentucky	1:00
March 14-	Blue-Gray Championships	
March 17	@ Montgomery	
March 23	@ Mississippi State	1:00
March 25	@ Ole Miss	2:00
March 27	@ Arkansas	2:00
April 6	@ Tennessee	2:00
/April 9	@ Alabama-Birmingham	2:00
April 12	Georgia	4:00
April 16	@ Auburn	2:00
April 19	Florida	2:00
April 21	Vanderbilt	11:00
April 25-	SEC Championships	
April 28	@ Fayetteville, Ark.	

Times are central

## Women's Tennis

Date	Opponent	Time
UA		Opp.
Jan. 26-29	@ Georgia Invitational	
7	Georgia Tech	2
6	South Alabama	3
5	@ Indiana	2
3	@ Notre Dame	4
7	Alabama-Birmingham	2
March 1	Auburn	1:00
March 3	Kansas	11:00
March 9	@ South Carolina	Noon
March 10	@ Clemson	10:00
March 15	@ Tennessee	TBA
March 16	@ Vanderbilt	2:30
March 21	Ole Miss	2:00
March 24	Florida International	
	@ Miami	11:00
March 25	@ Miami	Noon
March 28	@ Florida	2:00
April 7	Kentucky	1:00
April 10	@ Mississippi State	2:00
April 13	Georgia	11:00
April 14	LSU	Noon
April 20	@ Arkansas	11:00
April 25-	SEC Championships	
April 28	@ Gainesville, Fla.	
May 10-	NCAA Championships	
May 19	@ Tallahassee, Fla.	

Times are central

## Men's Golf

Date	Event	Finish
Feb. 10-11	Gator Intercollegiate	
	@ Gainesville, Fla.	7th of 15 teams
March 1-3	Imperial Lakes Intercollegiate	
	@ Lakeland, Fla.	
March 22-24	Southeastern Intercollegiate	
	@ Montgomery (Lagoon Park)	
March 29-31	Carpet Capital Collegiate	
	@ Dalton, Ga.	
April 19-21	Billy Hitchcock Intercollegiate	
	@ Auburn	
May 10-12	SEC Championships @ TBA	
May 16-18	NCAA East Regional @ TBA	
May 28-	NCAA Championships	
June 1	@ Chattanooga	

## Men's Outdoor Track

Date	Event
March 16	Springtime Invitational
	@ Auburn
March 22-24	Alabama Relays
April 6	Georgia Invite @ Athens
April 13	Crimson Classic
April 20	Mt. SAC Relays @ Walnut, Cal.
April 20	LSU Alumni Gold
	@ Baton Rouge
April 26-27	Drake Relays @ Des Moines
May 5	Alabama Intercollegiate
	@ Auburn
May 16-18	SEC Championships
	@ Lexington
May 29-	NCAA Championships
June 1	@ Eugene, Ore.

## Women's Golf

Date	Event	Finish
March 1-3	Lady Gator Invitational	
	@ Gainesville, Fla.	
March 15-17	Fai rwood Invitational	
	@ Baton Rouge, La.	
March 22-24	Lady Gamecock	
	@ Columbia, S.C.	
April 12-14	Liz Murphy Invitational	
	@ Athens, Ga.	
April 19-21	SEC Championships	
	@ Knoxville, Tenn.	
May 9-11	NCAA East Regional	
	@ Auburn	
May 22-25	NCAA Championships	
	@ Palm Springs, Cal.	

## Women's Outdoor Track

Date	Event
March 16	Springtime Invitational
	@ Auburn
March 22-24	Alabama Relays
April 6	Georgia Invite @ Athens
April 13	Crimson Classic
April 20	Mt. SAC Relays @ Walnut, Cal.
April 20	LSU Alumni Gold
	@ Baton Rouge
April 26-27	Drake Relays @ Des Moines
May 5	Alabama Intercollegiate
	@ Auburn
May 16-18	SEC Championships
	@ Lexington
May 29-	NCAA Championships
June 1	@ Eugene, Ore.



# A passion for printing. Your way.

EBSCO Media exists totally to serve our customers. In a high speed world of automation, electronics, and deadlines, we remain a company obsessed with old fashioned service. Your budget, your deadline, your quality standards, your satisfaction, are our obsessions. We use the tools and techniques of the modern world to accomplish these things, never losing sight of our primary goal, pleasing you.

Achieving that goal takes two important ingredients: it takes an incredibly well designed printing plant and it takes an incredibly well designed attitude on behalf of our employees. We have meticulously created and designed one of the most streamlined, productive printing plants in the nation, with plenty of room, plenty of light, and every timesaving system available.

EBSCO personnel, from sales consultants to shipping clerks, participate in company profits. Our hands-on management policies, team-like approach, and employee incentives keep our people motivated to work for you. But underneath all that, they're just special. They won't rush you off the phone or shuttle you to someone else. You'll find they not only know the business technically, they care.



**EM** EBSCO MEDIA

801 Fifth Avenue South  
Birmingham, Alabama 35233  
(205) 323-1508

division of  
EBSCO  
Industries  
Inc. **ei**





To order, call  
**1-800-772-7737**

Coral Licensed Products  
P.O. Drawer 40228  
Tuscaloosa, Alabama 35404-0508

MASTERCARD • VISA

◀ *Tail gate in style at the next game!*

Color coordinated, premium gauge steel frame.  
Safety tempered glass. Folds for easy storage.

*Great for a game time meal.*

Solid oak frame. Safety tempered glass.  
Folds for easy storage.



Item	Size	Price
DeskPad	15 x 22	18.75
	20 x 30	21.75
Placemats (set of 4)	12 x 18	60.00 set
Lap Tray	16 x 23	45.00
T.V. Tray	16 x 23	45.00
Card Table	36 x 36	96.00
Chairs		22.00

Plus 4% AL Sales Tax (residents), Shipping, and Handling charges.



*Other schools available. Call for more information.*





NUMBER ONE

WAY TO  
FOLLOW  
THE  
CRIMSON  
TIDE.



Bama Magazine has been giving Alabama fans the inside story on all aspects of Crimson Tide Football since 1979. Our readers get the facts and figures, but also get the story behind

the story. We profile the stars and the stars-to-be, coaches, and even the stars of yesteryear as we remember Alabama tradition. And for the best and most accurate recruiting information, nothing compares. A subscription brings you 10 full-color magazines and 14 newsletters mailed first class. We don't stop with football season, either. Keep up with all Alabama sports, August through May. Great gift idea, too!



1-800-713-2261



**PLEASE SEND ME ONE YEAR  
(24 ISSUES) OF 'BAMA FOR  
ONLY \$35.00**

Total amount enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ subscriptions. Alabama residents add \$2.00 sales tax each order. Overseas add \$10.00 each order.

Make checks payable to: 'Bama Magazine  
P.O. Box 6104  
Tuscaloosa, AL 35486

Payment Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_ Mastercard \_\_\_\_\_ Visa \_\_\_\_\_

Bank Card# \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE PRINT

TO: (Name) \_\_\_\_\_

(Address) \_\_\_\_\_

(City) \_\_\_\_\_ (State) \_\_\_\_\_ (Zip) \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_ New Subscription \_\_\_\_\_ Renewal \_\_\_\_\_

If THIS IS A GIFT,

Gift From: (name) \_\_\_\_\_

(Address) \_\_\_\_\_

(City) \_\_\_\_\_ (State) \_\_\_\_\_ (Zip) \_\_\_\_\_